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A CONTENT STUDY OF FIVE INFLUENTIAL U.S. DAILY NEWSPAPERS-WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION TO COMMENT REGARDING THE U.S. ARMED FORCES IN A HISTORICAL CONTEXT (1937-49)

BY

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A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

MASTER OF ARTS
(Journalism)

et the UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

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SPECIAL SECTION

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

For it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an'
"Chuck him out, the brute!"
But it's "Saviour of 'is country" when
The guns begin to shoot;
An' it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that,
An' anything you please;
An' Tommy ain't a bloomin' fool--you
Bet that Tommy sees!

--Kipling

with the United States military effort in Indochina. Although U.S. participation in this unfortunate war had its earliest roots under the administration of a World War II military hero, Dwight D. Eisenhower, it must be considered primarily a political war. Our forces have never been allowed to fight the war in a manner calculated to achieve victory. The restrictions of politics and diplomacy on all phases of strategy have been extremely binding on a military organization of strong and successful traditions.

The once unchallanged American duty of fighting for one's country when called upon has eroded away in a scramble to "beat the draft" in any manner possible by many of our young men. The general dissatisfaction with this war has spread from the young to all age groups. This growing and pervasive attitude on the part of the American people has had a detrimental effect upon the morale of its

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military services. It cannot be explicitly proven but it seems within reason to suppose that this morale problem may have been a factor in the unfortunate occurrence of several discreditable military performances recently brought to public attention.

The press has utilized its powerful prerogative of acting as a "watchdog on government" by focusing on our armed forces' performance in Indochina. Able war correspondents have been responsible for publicizing the military's unworthy conduct by keeping such activity consistently on the front and editorial pages of the nation's newspapers. The press then has been an extremely influential factor in shaping American public opinion toward its armed forces. Television also has had a great effect. The impact of this conflict has been brought into the very living room of the American people.

What of this attitude of newsmen toward the armed forces? It is obviously a matter of considerable importance to the well-being of our nation. The United States is deeply involved in international politics and the necessity of maintaining a strong military organization must be recognized by its citizens. It is clear that our military is approaching a nadir in public respect. Our fighting men therefore greatly need a more favorable press to return to a position of honor in the eyes of the American people. Such a turnabout can only be accomplished by more responsible future behavior by our men in uniform. America's military leadership is becoming acutely aware of this fact. But it must also be recognized by the press that the shortcomings of the military represent the actions of relatively few of its members.

These two influential elements of our society—the press and the military—should seek improvement in rapport and communications with one another. Each might profit by recognition of the unique problems of the other in order that the American public gain by more responsible conduct from both.

If it is accepted that the war in Indochina has lowered public opinion toward the military organization, what of this attitude prior to this conflict? I submit that there has been a tendency within the civilian population of the United States to observe the military profession as one of limited prestige for many years. Morris Janowitz makes the point clear in the beginning chapter of his book. The Professional Soldier. 2 The general civilian attitude toward the military appears to fluctuate depending upon the degree of stress that the country is encountering in the arena of international politics. That is, in time of threatening conflict or outright warfare, military personnel are accepted and respected in a highly favorable manner; Whereas in peacetime the civilian reaction is something less than favorable. The attitude tends to be one of tolerating a "necessary evil." Ladislas Farago wrote: "In time of peace, the officers of the regular Army establishment were butts of civilian criticism and condescension, if not contempt. . . . " The examples are many. This interpretation of American civilian public opinion shall be called the writer's "Tommy theory."

Certainly the lengthy commitment of the United States in Indochina seems to be something of a reversal of this theory; however,

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I submit that this complex entanglement has been strongly influenced by the political and diplomatic restrictions mentioned earlier. I believe these factors are unique to this unpopular war alone. Paradoxically, the American presence in this war has driven military prestige even further downward and the press has frequently been the vehicle of this descent.

In order to gain some insight into the background of the relationship between the government (military) and the press, research methodology was devised to investigate it in a historical context. Students of history are well aware that the future can sometimes be more safely charted by applying lessons learned from the past. In this regard, it seemed reasonable to study press attitudes focusing on the United States armed forces in a critical period of our history. It was hoped that such a study might reveal information that could explain, to some degree, the present coverage of the armed forces by the press.

Purpose and Scope of Study

Proceeding under the premise that American public opinion toward its armed forces is reaching a dangerously low level and demands investigation for improvement, it is the purpose of the quantitative study to analyze the nature and scope of press comment (see Appendix A) toward the military organization during a wartime period in United States history. It is hoped that this research will initiate a series of more contemporary studies on the same basic theme. In this manner

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a broad picture of government (military)-press relations might be drawn over a meaningful time span. The study is a content analysis of five influential American daily newspapers with special attention to comment regarding the United States armed forces in a historical context (1937-b9). Examination and analysis will show the quantitative amount, direction and focus of this comment as presented in these five newspapers. The study attempts to uncover valuable historical background regarding the growth of American public attitude toward its armed forces. It specifically intends to investigate a considerable segment of press comment during a period when the military became greatly involved in the American society due to the Second World Car and the advent of the Cold War.

The study was pointed at a test of four hypotheses regarding newspaper editorial attitudes during this historical time frame. It was hypothesized that:

- I. Examination will show the sample of five newspapers furnished measurable differences among themselves in length, number and type of items commenting on military subjects.
- II. Journalistic comment generated about the armed forces will show a mixed but gradual upward tendency in favorableness while approaching World War II; followed by a reversal and therefore a downward trend after the end of the war. A temporary lowering of favorable attitude will be expected shortly after Pearl Marbor, followed by a rapid upswing through the war. The post-war descent will be most evident in the late 1950s when frequent inter-service quarreling peaked over the establishment of a Department of Defense and related issues.
- III. The five dailies chosen will furnish measurable differences among themselves in direction of comment toward the armed forces.

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IV. The focus (major emphasis or central theme with military implications) of comment within these newspapers will be closely aligned.

The remainder of this chapter will include a discussion of the significance of the project, a description of the sources to be used in the examination and defining the methodology to be used in the study. Chapter II will briefly summarize armed forces public relations development from the mid-1930s through 1949. Chapters III, IV and V will be concerned individually with an explanation and analysis of the three major areas of research interest—volume, direction and focus. Chapter VI will attempt to the study together in an interpretive conclusion.

Significance

There continues to be a need for additional journalism research in the area of press-government relations. Such studies may contribute to deeper knowledge and better understanding of the relationship of these two great forces in modern American society. Within the United States government since 1937, the military organization gradually climbed to a position of great power and high visibility. This visibility then has been a comparatively recent development. The historical structure of the United States government through its early years deliberately sought to subjugate the military organization under strong civilian control. The armed forces were therefore thrust into the background of our society until events encompassing the Second World War caused the military to rise to an unfamiliar position

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of power within the American system. After both the Civil War and World War I, the country sought to forget the tragedies of these conflicts by quickly demobilizing the armed forces.

After the Second World War, three factors caused the nation to accept the continuing presence of a military force that far out-weighed anything the country had maintained in peacetime in the past. These factors were: (1) poor prior preparation for two world wars within 25 years, (2) the belligerency of the post-war communist movement and (3) the development of atomic weaponry with the recognition that it would not remain an exclusive secret. And so the armed forces grew, taking an ever-enlarging share of the nation's tax dollar. Today there is an unmistakable cry from the American people that there must be a re-ordering of national priorities concerning the spending of that tax dollar.

Over other communication forms in the chosen time frame, a press analysis seemed to offer the most fruitful means of examining media influence on public opinion toward the military. This study observed only newspapers believed to have a strong impact within a considerable geographical area. Each is also located near one or more large military installations and would be expected to express strong opinions on military matters.

These related factors: (1) the growth of the military role in the American society since 1937--especially financial, (2) the importance of newspapers in helping the public understand its military

organization--especially regarding its performance in spending and strategy and (3) a need for greater understanding between the military and the press that may be aided by historical research-when examined together seem to reflect a gap in existing knowledge worthy of research and significant to more contemporary study.

Sources

Some of the most important independent variables germane to the study were the newspapers chosen for analysis. Five large metropolitan dailies were selected with two basic considerations in mind. The considerations were: (1) geographical location and (2) size of circulation. The lengthy time frame chosen necessitated the study being limited to five newspapers. Two research projects previously completed at the University of Wisconsin established the validity of the first two considerations. Wendell J. Coats and Steve W. Mulkey relied upon geographical location and size of circulation as their primary and secondary objective characteristics in their plan to stratify and select a representative cross-section of U.S. dailies in 1949. Coats and Mulkey determined that there were a total of nine characteristics necessary to obtain a meaningful cross-section. George S. Pappas refined the Coats-Mulkey procedure in 1950 and found that only two objective characteristics of the nine listed in the Coats-Mulkey study had any major significance. These were the two mentioned earlier -- geographical location and size of circulation.5

Section 6

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unlike the other three newspapers chosen, the New York Times and Washington Post were not the largest circulation dailies in their respective cities. The Editor & Publisher International Yearbook showed, however, that these morning dailies had very large and growing readerships through the 1940s. The Times' weekday circulation had climbed to 541,269 and the Post's to 177,308 by 1949. Sunday circulation figures were much higher. The availability and eventual excellence of these newspapers led to their use in this study. The other three newspapers were the dominant dailies in their metropolitan areas based upon copies sold. Editor & Publisher showed the Los Angeles Times (weekday - 12,319) to be the best-selling daily on the West Coast in 1949 and the Chicago Tribune (weekday - 982,238) in the Midwest region. The Milwaukee Journal, the only evening newspaper

used, had reached a circulation of 309, blb in 19b9 and was Wisconsin's largest daily newspaper.

Content analysis studies of this type frequently analyze ten dailies in what has come to be called the "prestige" press. Due to the great amount of microfilm involved in this research, it was limited to a heavy sampling of only five of these prestigious dailies. The Washington Post, Milwaukee Journal and Los Angeles Times were building toward positions of journalistic excellence through this time frame.

None had, at that time, achieved wide recognition as a member of the prestige press. Obvious improvement in mature editorial policy was noted in these dailies as the research progressed. Their present-day stature led to an interest in observing their earlier style and composition. If later follow-on studies are generated by this thesis, the five newspapers investigated will be easily adaptable to further research involving the prestige press as acknowledged by contemporary journalism scholars.

William L. Rivers compared two surveys of the Washington press corps' attitude toward the "prestige" press in The Opiniomakers. The first survey analyzed the research of Leo Rosten in 1937, the second was called a "current survey" (1965). The dominance of the New York Times was unquestionable. It remained the most heavily relied upon and was judged the fairest newspaper in both surveys. The Washington Post climbed from ninth position in 1937 to seventh in 1965. The Milwaukee Journal was unlisted in 1937 and rose to ninth position by 1965. The Chicago Tribune was unlisted in both surveys, however

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was mentioned (tenth position) as one of the "newspapers read regularly" by the press corps in Resten's early survey. The Los Angeles Times was not located in any phase of either survey. Its prestige status might then be considered a recent development.

Method

It was decided that a large representative sample of each newspaper during the 13 years of the study would offer a meaningful test of the four hypotheses. Four months of each year were analyzed. The months chosen were the first of each quarter (i.e., January, April, July and October), and all days of the selected months were observed for content. The comment coded involved three separate types: editorials, letters to the editor printed by the newspaper and feature articles.

The original research design sought to eliminate the frailties of systematic sampling of the five newspapers; however, locating and coding all available comment over such a lengthy time span was soon recognized as too great a task for one student. It was then determined that looking at the first month of each quarter of each year would produce a valid sample. A short inter-study comparison was accomplished to test the soundness of this procedure. The coded results of comment in a complete year (1937) of the New York Times were used as a base. These figures were compared against the four sample months listed above. The results are shown in Table 1.

In the interest of table brevity, only three parts of the research design were analyzed. These parts regarding quantitative

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amount, direction and focus were chosen because they represent the heart of the study. The figure .333 was the ideal percentage sought. Although the analysis showed some weakness in the amount (column inches) area, the comparison helped to establish the method as reasonably sound.

TABLE 1.-- New York Times comment on military topics (1 January - 31 December 1937)

		Complete year	Selected period (Jan., Apr., July, Oct.)	
Amount		大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大	·····································	er er film mely efter einstein eilde sykgarden i vilder CAF di vergion of er vilder (differen
(column inches)	Total	3494	71.8	.214
Direction of art	icle			
(1) Unfavorable (2) Neutral (3) Favorable	Total	65 li 66 135	18 3 20 11	.277 .750 .303
Focus of article (1) Social (2) Political (3) Economic (4) Leadership (5) Management (6) Strategy (7) Combination	Total	18 19 23 18 15 32 10	66668591	.333 .315 .269 .bl.L .333 .281 .100

Further substantiation was sought for the method of using a one month sample to represent each quarter in the study. F. James Davis and Lester W. Turner determined "that nonconsecutive samples of every fifth day or every sixth day are feasible for all news categories

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in American newspapers" in a content analysis dealing with crime news in 1951. 8 It follows logically that every third-month coverage would be equally as valid as every fifth- or sixth-day coverage due to the heavier sampling in the present study. Editorial and feature comment also would seem to qualify as "news categories."

The coding unit used in the project was the article. It was originally intended to code individual paragraphs; however this unit was discovered to be impractical when the volume of material that required coding became clear early in the study. Most editorials, letters and features involved a discernible theme that was codable regarding amount, direction and focus.

Standard column inch measurement was used (i.e., 176 to the eight column page, 22 per individual column). The New York Times presented a small problem due to its editorial page make-up. The Times printed a seven column editorial page; therefore, these editorials were coded at 1.1h column inches for each standard column inch measured. Similar allowances were made for any uncrthodox page layouts encountered on the five dailies.

Second, the direction of the article was coded. Three classification categories were developed (i.e., favorable, neutral and unfavorable). Operational definitions were developed for these categories (see Appendix A). Few articles were coded neutral because the comment chosen for coding was usually opinionated in an obvious direction. The operational definitions used in coding direction

were adapted from those employed in a study by Richard W. Budd at the University of Icwa.9

Third, the major emphasis or general theme of comment (i.e., focus) regarding the military in each unit was coded for analysis.

There were seven sub-categories used (see Appendix A) for this segment of the research. Articles containing more than a single area of emphasis were coded as "combination."

The remainder of the information coded consisted of the identification of the newspaper, the date, section and page where the coded article could be located, the type of item and the direction of the headline, photo(s) and/or cartoon(s) involved with the article (see Appendix B). The wording of the headline for each article was also recorded for ease in identification. The complete coding sheet design is shown in Appendix B.

In order to obtain the quantitative data used in the exemination of the four hypotheses, the editorial pages or sections and the Sunday supplements (e.g., magazine, rotogravure, graphics, etc.) were examined for each day of the selected months in all the sample newspapers. Additional feature articles were not sought due to the excessive time required to search whole newspapers for such comment. Letters to the editor were always found on or adjacent to the primary editorial page in each newspaper.

The test of Hypothesis I was a volume and item analysis discussed in Chapter III. The criteria used in measuring the amount of comment devoted to military subjects were: (a) number of column

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inches and (b) number of items and (c) type of items. Individual editorial cartoons were coded if occurring on the editorial page or within a feature article. Photographic features (i.e., more than one-half page in size or three or more photographs on the same subject) were coded if occurring in the Sunday supplement. Single photographs were not coded. Only editorials found on the editorial page or in the Sunday editorial section were coded.

The three "type of item" categories (i.e., editorial, letter to the editor and feature) were atilized in order to present a more balanced analysis than would have been possible with the use of editorials alone. Editorials were however the major analysis category sought. Coding feature stories and not sorthy photographic presentations allowed the study to include what these influential newspapers believed were military topics worthy of "in-depth" reporting. Such features were included because they were examples of interpretive reporting. Straight editorials expressed opinion and abbreviated many of the "clarification and illumination" aspects of interpretive writing found in feature articles. Coding letters to the editor returned another dimension to the volume analysis. It reflected what the public believed were military topics that deserved comment. The study was limited in this area because it could only analyze what each newspaper chose to print of this type of communication.

The testing of Hypotheses II and III was a directional analysis discussed in Chapter IV. The attitudes of the five large dailies were

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where the complete was a supply and the party of the complete and the comp where a control of play of the later with the control of the control of the the same and all the artifaction possible court of the same along the party of the same and the same and the same along the sa the principle of the pr and the state of t Address to the second of the second s THE RESIDENCE AS NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE OWNER, THE PARTY OF TH the second learned learned learned against making again the second second section in the last of t the second law or included the law beautiened. the second color and the second colored to be a passed self-second OF THE RESERVE THE PARTY OF THE formation and format profit or the formation of the party the base of the second -there is not been as a supplied to the second of second commencers and better bridges. -9213

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gauged by the favorable, neutral or unfavorable direction of the three item categories mentioned above. The problem of directionally coding an entire item was not a small one. Many individual editorials were written expressing both a negative and positive side to American military efforts—especially during the bitter defensive effort fought by American troops in 19h2. Yet most could be coded, as one primary attitude was usually predominant. If no clear-cut decision could be made, the item was coded "neutral."

The test of Hypothesis II was shown on a chart in order to clearly portray how the newspapers examined collectively commented on the armed forces over the entire 13-year spectrum. This was a test of the writer's "Tommy theory." Further analysis (Hypothesis III) showed how the selected dailies compared among themselves in the direction of their comment toward the military organization. Headlines and graphic presentations were also quantitatively studied in this chapter.

Hypothesis IV was a test of the focus (major emphasis or central theme) of comment involving the armed forces. Howard Loving established the use of "focus" in a content analysis thesis when he described his methodology in a recent study of the 1969 French Presidential election. Il Loving observed prestige newspaper coverage and whether individual paragraphs within items focused on the candidates or on the issues. This study separates focus into seven general categories (see Appendix A) more suitable for analysis.

All coded comment was examined to determine which basic

category formed the central theme of each item. As in directional analysis, the coding of focus developed one primary difficulty: some items included a combination of more than one of the categories. This problem occurred in a small percentage of the items used and was ceded "combination." The deliberately broad definitions of the focus categories precluded the need for an "other" category.

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CHAPTER II

ARMED PORCES PUBLIC RELATIONS DEVELOPMENT

It is mandatory . . . that the armed forces create public understanding of their mission. No organization faces a stiffer, continuing public relations assignment.1

Armed forces attitudes toward newmen have progressed through the years from unconcern and a lack of cooperation to a firm acknowl-edgment of the value of a favorable press. In Effective Public Relations, Gutlip and Center related the Civil War incident in which General George heads had a newspaper correspondent removed from comp with a sign reading "Libeller of the Press" around the man's neck. F. Donald Scovel wrote of the greeting given reporters by the Navy as they attempted to cover a submarine socident involving the Sala. The writers had hired a tug to reach the salvage scene but were turned away by Navy fire hoses. By the period of this study, however, military attitudes had reversed and the armed services actively sought the media's friendship. The first head of the Department of Defense, James Forcestal, was greatly aware of the power of the press and its effect on public opinion. The editors of The Forcestal Diaries said:

Forrestal was keenly sensitive to public opinion-at times perhars oversensitive. He followed it closely, was always in touch with newspapermen and commentators, filled his files with articles and clippings that seemed significant to him and paid considerable attention to . . . public relations.

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The transitional period of this attitude change toward the press took place, to a great extent, during the time frame of this study.

The Prewar Years

Armed forces' public relations (PR) efforts were week and sporadic during the years leading into the Second World War. The Army, for example, placed its public relations function in its Military Intelligence Division (G-2). With security of information emphasized throughout the division, PR's potential to the Army was handicapped.

As Sidney Knutson wrote: "It was . . . true of this period that the Army's public relations machinery was not functioning to perfection.

Perhaps if it had been a more enlightened PR program in 1935 the Army might not have been in such dire straits in size, equipment and public acceptance."

Through the same time period the Navy was experiencing difficulties in its Public Relations Branch--also subordinate to an intelligence section, the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI). The Secretary of the Navy, Claude Swanson, in a memorandum to all bureaus and offices of the Navy Department wrote:

The Public Relations Branch . . . has been asked by newspapermen from time to time to corroborate items of indisputable Mavy Department origin that have appeared in the press but which have not been cleared through its press section.

Instances have occurred where a reporter was refused information by the Public Relations Branch on the advice of the bureau or office concerned and subsequently an opposition paper obtained the information by establishing contact directly with an officer or employee of the bureau or office.

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Such departures from the regular procedure, while seldom serious in themselves, tend to compromise the Navy Department's machinery for the simultaneous and impartial distribution of public information concerning the Navy Department and the naval service.

The Marine Corps did not experience the degree of public relations difficulty that its sister services encountered frequently through this period. Significantly, this branch of service never attached PR to an intelligence function. The Corps had recognized early the value of a highly professional PR program in its World War I recruiting efforts. Such a program continued into the time frame of this study. Beginning in 1936, hajor General Commandant Thomas Holcomb directed an aggressive PR effort in his tenure as head of the Corps. The resourceful Sergeant Percy Webb was also greatly responsible for the Marines' popularity with newsmen. This colorful Earline, through his writing, was influential in molding his fellow Regulars into a unit of high PR-consciousness. Tet even the Corps had an occasional problem. Robert Lindsay wrote:

In January, 1937, Holcomb, apparently as the result of some intra-Headquarters fumbling of press relations, issued a memorandum addressed to all departments and offices at Headquarters.

. . . he demanded that a stop be put to practices which resulted in publication of items not cleared or released through the Public Relations Section, or which resulted in disgruntled aditors, the victims of "beats" by their opposition.

The Marine Corps sought to promote public relations as the responsibility of each of its members and, in the words of one of its postwar public information officers, did not have any type of public information organization prior to World war II.

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A major problem which affected the PR efforts of each branch of service through the prewar years was the lack of adequate manpower to operate a strong program in Washington. The Army operated with two officers and five civilians in Public Relations Branch, Military Intelligence Division (PRB, MID) during 1937. On the Mavy's PRB was staffed by eight military and civilian specialists, headed by a Lieutenant Commander in the 1938-39 period. The Marine Headquarters' public relations efforts maintained close contact with the Navy PRB through the late 1930s. Marine PR offered another unique and effective difference from the Army and Navy systems. It worked closely with its Recruiting Bureau in Philadelphia regarding press releases and photographs for the press. The Corps though, for several years was hindered by a lack of sufficient specialists assisting in press relations.

Armed service leaders were also quite aware at that time of the stigma attached to PR efforts smacking of propaganda. The Army was especially concerned in avoiding "anything that might by any remote construction be considered as propaganda." A Marine recruiter wrote in the 1931 Marine Corps Gazette: "In the preparation of publicity, every care should be used to eliminate even a trace of 'Ballyhoo' or war propaganda."

As a rapidly expanding Army and Navy approached World War II, it was recognized that a more professional PR effort was necessary to properly inform the public concerning what the services were doing with its sons and tax dollars. The military was unaccustomed to

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America's renewed interest after a period of more than two decades of public apathy. Hundreds of thousands of young men were being mustered into the armed forces, bringing the attention of their families and friends with them. This new national attention, added to earlier emergency planning studies done by a Joint Army-Navy Public Relations Committee (JANPRC), raised public relations to the top level of military management before the war.

The Army transferred the Public Relations Branch from the Intelligence Division to the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff in July, 1940. General Alexander Surles, who in 1935 had been appointed by General Douglas MacArthur to head the PRB, was given authorization to greatly enlarge the bureau in January, 1941. A new office, the War Department Bureau of Public Relations (WDEPR), was formed under the direction of an excellent organizer, Kajor General Robert Richardson III. General Richardson held the directorship of the new Bureau for only six menths before moving on to a new command. Surles was ordered back to replace Richardson and remained the head of WDEPR through the war. 14

The Navy formally removed public affairs from ONI and placed it under the control of the Secretary of the Navy in April, 19hl.

The Secretary at that time was Frank Knox, former publisher of the Chicago Daily News. Admiral Arthur Hepburn headed the new Office of Public Relations. With Europe at war and the navel service deeply involved in aiding Great Britain in the Atlantic, the Navy PR effort continued to grow and emergency planning assumed increased importance.

The Marines established a PR division at Headquarters in July, 1941. The organization was responsible for both public relations and all publicity, including that for recruiting. There was no regular press branch included in this new PR division. Everything in the way of spot news was handled by the Navy Press Branch. 15

The War and Censorship

Despite the limited number of personnel involved, the services had the nucleus of a workable PR organization when World War II broke. Military information acquitted itself reasonably well as the war progressed. Yet, one difficulty became apparent early. The nature of the PR function was bound closely to a problem extremely hazardous to smooth press relations. That problem was censorship, a procedure considered a near necessity by many military officers in a wartime situation but one deeply distrusted by newsmen. There were sound arguments both for and against the tightening of government (predominately military) secrecy regulations. Arthur Krock, writing in his New York Times column, offered one of the most reasoned summaries of the dilemma in January, 1942. He wrote:

This censorship . . . is also a measure of the public safety. and as a policy there can be no quarrel with it. Until or unless concealment is used to shield official incompetence or weakness of organization, it is an essential evil of war. . . Freedom in its Bill of Rights definition having vanished for the duration of the war, it remains to be seen how greatly the restrictions will affect those areas of information where censor and press may honestly and patriotically differ over what will give aid to the enemy, and those items which are annoying to officialdom rather than of military value to the foe. 10

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Navy censorship policies received the greatest amount of unfavorable comment directed at the armed forces by the media early in the war. The sea service was forced into fighting an extremely defensive struggle in the Pacific through most of 19h2. American industry was not fully mobilized and the nation's major war effort was directed at preparing to stop Mitler in Africa and Europe. As a result, the Pacific war against Japan was fought primarily by a Navy badly handicapped in supply and equipment. This situation added to the shock of the Pearl Harbor disaster and the very nature of naval warfare were factors contributing to the Navy's reticence to disclose information.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt himself generated a principle, following Pearl Harbor, which the Navy used to back its information policy of limited and late disclosure. The President's Director of War Information, Elmer Davis, explained the origin of the policy when he wrote:

President Roosevelt had laid down the principle in his press conference of December 9, 1941 that "war news, to be released, must be true, and must not give aid and comfort to the enemy." He added, however that the decision as to whether it would give aid and comfort to the enemy was up to the heads of the War and Navy Departments; which in the Navy Department particularly, meant the uniformed heads of the armed forces. 17

In naval warfare issues arose, particularly in connection with the sinking of American warships in air-sea battles such as Midway and the Coral Sea, where no ship of either fleet ever saw an enemy warship. Naval air power was the primary offensive weapon used.

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In those actions it might be questioned whether the enemy knew he had sunk certain of our ships or not. The Japanese claims were so wildly exaggerated as to be of little value as a guide. In the months after Pearl Harbor, when fighting with limited forces, it became firm naval policy that nothing would be released to the media that might tell the enemy something he did not know.

Late disclosure of naval losses in the Solomon Islands created a wave of media anti-Navy secrecy criticism in late 19h2. A Scripps-Howard Washington Daily News editorial illustrated the attitude of many Americans:

By withholding news of ship losses from 5 to 10 weeks--and by still suppressing Fearl Harbor and Manila plane losses after nearly a year--the Government is making the public a sucker for natural fears and unchecked exaggeration, not to mention enemy propaganda.18

Such belated admission of losses at first concealed, increased popular distrust and led to the belief that the Navy was withholding bad news merely because it was bad, or until it had good news to balance it. This state of mind encouraged belief in wild rumors. It led to a suspicion that not only the armed forces but also the Recsevelt administration felt that the people could not be trusted with information about events of the war. The effect on newsmen and the public was bad, no matter how good the original intention. A New York Times editorial illustrated media feeling regarding the government information policy. It said:

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The problem of wartime censorship is a difficult one at best. . . Official suppression tempered by unofficial revelation may lead to the worst possible policy, which is to make public only the favorable facts . . . and suppress the unfavorable. Such a policy would breed a false public confidence regarding our position and then, when bad news shattered this, would undermine the public confidence in their Government's statements.19

By the end of the war, the Navy had made progress in clearing its reputation as a highly consored news source. One important example showed the change. The Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Ernest J. King, once strongly anti-press, became a respected backgrounder for newsmen later in the conflict. This was confirmed in a personal letter to this writer from a well-known public relations practitioneer, Phelps H. Adams. Adams wrote:

During the war I did have a fairly close association with Admiral Ernest J. King, who in the early days of the conflict was a target of Drew Pearson's smear jobs, and who had great distrust of and contempt for, the press, as a result. How that situation was turned completely around so that King became the press corps' most respected source of confidential information on the progress of the war is . . . a fascinating study. . . . 20

The Army also experienced some difficulty with the press regarding censorship. Suppression of the incident which involved the striking of a hospitalized soldier by General Patton caused extreme discomfort for the Army when it was exposed by columnist Drew Pearson. Arthur Krock commented on the incident:

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The Army's top leadership was, however, acutely aware of the problem and actively sought a strong wartime information program.

Secretary of War Henry Stimson assumed an active interest in WDBPR, and placed it directly under his supervision in 19hl. The Secretary recognized the pitfalls associated with military secrecy and said:

The excellent direction of General Surles and Secretary Stimson's appreciation for a sound information effort resulted in a workeble relationship between WDBPR and the Office of Censorship and the Office of War Information (OWI). Knutson wrote: "In general, relations were quite harmonious with /Elmer/ Davis /head of OWI/, and especially so . . . with Bryon Price and the Office of Censorship." More insight into this relationship can be gained by examining a letter written to Davis by George Creel. Creel was the World War I head of President Woodrow Wilson's Committee of Public Information (CPI). Creel wrote:

I am more sorry than I can say that your control over Army, Navy and State is not real in any sense of the word. I know admirals and generals, also Summer Welles, and while you may think you have established an arrangement that will permit a free flow of the news, just wait until an issue arises. The whole success of the CPI was due to the fact that neither the Army nor the Navy had the right to sit in arbitrary judgment on what should or should not be printed. Time after time they disputed my authority, and I won out only because Woodrow Wilson

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hammered them down. "Coordination by conference" nover worked and never will work. 24

Davis wrote in the margin of this letter: "he was about right on all points E. D."

As the war progressed more favorably for the American armed forces, censorship eased. Newsmen became more satisfied with military information efforts. The developing air service, under General H. H. Arnold, clearly saw the dividends of effective public relations.

Early in the conflict, the American people recognized the strength of air power and were receptive to favorable publicity on its behalf.

Such growing acceptance occasionally came at the expense of the Army and Navy which had temporarily lost considerable public confidence due to unpreparedness at Pearl Harbor. The New York Times said:

"The man in the street has been quicker than the old-line admirals and generals to recognize the dominant role of air power in the present war."

In addition, the Air Corps had recruited many skilled PR and advertising men as the war started. These specialists became very valuable in promoting the Air Force as a separate branch of service—a campaign that reaped dividends in 1947.

The Postwar Years

Armed forces public relations matured further in the years after World War II despite personnel cutbacks. The function was used extensively to assist the military in strengthening its forces in the face of a belligerent Russian cold war strategy. The services sought public support for money and manpower programs. Personnel

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strength had diminished at a rapid rate with the close of the war as the American people exerted maximum pressure to bring their fighting men home. As a result, top military leaders sought a strong information effort to rally public opinion in recognizing the need for sustained interest in national security.

The writings of Knutson and Lindsay led the reader to believe that postwar public relations specialists, in theory, embraced the concept of open disclosure of information to the public and attempted to sell this idea to senior military pelicy-makers. These specialists became steadily more professional as they realized that there was a need and a responsibility for informing the public of armed services' activities in both war and peace.

There was also evidence that part of the American press supported a strong postwar military PR program. Lindsay quoted a Honolulu Advertiser editorial which said:

The Army continued to re-evaluate and shift its information function after the war. The office finally settled under the Deputy Chief of Staff and was headed by a Chief of Information with the rank of general. It was primarily through the news branch of this division that the Army conducted its press relations through the remaining years of the time frame involved in the study. Its efforts were

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fundamentally sound and unspectacular.

Navy information efforts lagged somewhat behind those of the other branches of the service in the late 1960s. Charles Larson implied that the difficulty was not with Navy PR specialists but was to be found in the attitude of many Navy line officers who lacked a sound understanding of the role of public relations. This situation may have contributed to the absence of press acceptance for the Navy's position in the armed forces unification quarrel of this time period. The Milwaukee Journal exemplified this lack of support in a 1969 editorial entitled, "Who's Sinking the Navy." It said:

The Navy, or its high com and, seems to be acting like a spoiled child.

Cortainly by its stubborn opposition to the unification program, and the conspiratorial and melodramatic activities in connection therewith, it is proving 190% right the task force of the Heover commission when it said:

"Public displays of interservice friction have often gone beyond the bounds of healthy rivalry. To the average citizen most of them seem childish." 28

The Air Force was very well accepted by the press after the war as it continued to capitalize on the fine reputation it had gained by its contribution to the allied victory. Its PR was consistently good and widespread. A New York Times editorial, "The Air Force Scores Again," for example, lauded the air service for its successful Negro and white integration at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas. The Times wrote:

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The white and Negro man . . . comprising the pennanent personnel at the base immediately began living, eating and training together in complete harmony. . . The Air Force carried out the /integrate/ order and did it commendably. 29

The Los Angeles Times also reflected the goodwill of Air Force PR by writing:

The Air Force was quick to act when The Times revealed intolerable living conditions and low morals at its super-secret desert test base at Muroc /California/. It set a laudable example for all military functionaries by accepting the information in the spirit in which it was given and taking steps to set conditions aright.

... Not the least of /the base commander's/ improvements is his reversal of the enlightened "public information" policy at Muroc. Bons fide newsmen are no longer to be barred from the base but will be welcome anywhere. . . 30

Lindsey maintained that Marine Corps PR activity after the war was highly professional and successful. Although the Corps opposed the armed forces unification bill of 19h7 due to the possible loss of its jealously guarded amphibious warfare mission, its Commandant, General Vandagrift, made a forthright statement explaining this attitude but also conveying clearly the Marines' intention to abide by the will of the people. The Marines wisely avoided the controversy and poor publicity that had marked the Navy opposition. This skillful handling of a delicate and highly emotional issue by the Corps showed the unmistakable mark of enlightened PR doctrine—a mark reaching to the very top of its leadership.

It can therefore be seen that the public relations efforts of the armed services progressed from an operation of limited effectiveness to one of considerable expertise within the time frame of this The series and department of the property of the series of

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study. Only the Navy effort seemed marginal by 1949. Such efforts must have had some significance in influencing press attitudes toward the military. It is these attitudes as expressed through the editorial and feature sections of leading metropolitan dailies of the time that will be analyzed in the next three chapters.

FOOTNOTES FOR CHAPTER II

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³F. Donald Scovel, "Helm's A'Lee, History of the Development of the Public Affairs Function in the United States Navy, 1861-1941" (unpublished M.A. thesis, University of Wisconsin, 1968), p. 124.

New York: The Viking Press, 1951), p. 7.

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Scovel, op. cit., p. 118.

⁷Robert G. Lindsay, "Mistory of the Public Relations Program in the United States Marine Corps" (unpublished M.A. thesis, University of Wisconsin, 195h), pp. 32-36.

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12 Knutson, op. cit., p. 115.

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17 Elmer Davis Papers, U.S. Library of Congress MSS Section (Report to the President: Oll History June 13, 1912-September 15, 1915), p. 13.

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- 22 Henry L. Stimson and McGeorge Bundy, On Active Service (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1948), p. 497.
 - 23 Knutson, op. cit., p. 187.
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 - 25 Editorial, New York Times, October 21, 1942, sec. 1, p. 20.
 - 26 Lindsay, op. cit., p. 137.
- 27 Charles Wesley Larson II, "Survival Equals Success: History of the U.S. Navy Public Information Specialty, 1945-1964" (unpublished M.A. thesis, University of Wisconsin, 1971), p. 25.
 - 28 Editorial, Milwaukee Journal, October 7, 1949, sec. 1, p. 18.
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 - 30 Editorial, Los Angeles Times, October 1, 1949, sec. 2, p. 4.
 - 31 Lindsay, op. cit., pp. 145-46.

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CHAPTER III

THE VOLUME ANALYSIS

Quantitative analyses are . . . gratuitous when the number of cases is small. . . . As the data become more numerous, however, a systematic arrangement of them becomes the more desirable. 1

The test of Hypothesis I analyzed the amount and type of military comment found in the five influential dailies studied. It was hypothesized that these newspapers would reveal measurable differences among themselves in length, number and type of items commenting on military subjects. As will be seen, this hypothesis was confirmed conclusively within the sample used.

The Washington Post

It was determined that the Washington Post led the other four dailies in both total number and overall length of items commenting on military-related subjects (see Table 3 and 4, pages 45 and 46). The Post carried 26 percent of the total comment analyzed in the research (see Table 2, page 44). This Washington daily also led the others in both total editorials and letters to the editor (see Tables 5 through 9, pages 47 through 51).

The Post's leadership seemed attributable to several factors.

First, it printed one and one-half to two pages of comment daily. The other study newspapers generally limited comment to a single page except on Sundays. Second, it devoted a large amount of daily editorial

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Ernest Lindley, Marquis Childs, Westbrook Pegler and others) through the time frame of the study. These writers frequently wrote on military subjects. Third, this newspaper also carried a Sunday armed forces feature page during the prewar years. This page was added to the routine Sunday magazine and picture feature sections which were printed by each of the five dailies examined. The feature page, however, was dropped after World War II broke out. Table 5, page 17, clearly shows the military feature emphasis found in the prewar Post. These factors seem to have influenced the Post's volume leadership in this study.

This newspaper's nearness to high-ranking military officials in the nation's capital might also be regarded as contributing to the Post's statistical edge in the research findings. Washington D.C. area military sources became extremely valuable to newsmen within the chosen time frame and the Post's editorial and feature writing reflected the newspaper's recognition of that fact. Expanding armed forces information efforts, as discussed in the previous chapter, might also have contributed to increased Post comment concerning the military.

The Post used graphics in many of its armed forces articles prior to the war. Photographs and editorial cartoons were often an important part of editorial and feature presentations. Through the war years and into the postwar period this policy seemed to change. The majority of comment on military topics shifted to editorials and

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away from photographic features and editorial cartoons.

The New York Times

Analyzing the New York Times data also revealed a large volume of military comment between 1937 and 1949. The Times contributed 23.2 percent of the material found in the completed sample (see Table 2, page 141), and finished second in most aspects of the volume analysis. This prestigious New York daily would have undoubtedly been the volume leader in the study except for the newspaper's policy of not printing the comment of syndicated columnists on its editorial page. The Times procedure in expressing opinion was unvarying. Much of its comment was found in its lengthy editorial section in the Sunday edition.

Additional feature articles were found in the New York Times Magazine which also printed on Sunday. Comment during the remainder of the week was limited to short items found on a daily single editorial page.

The Times employed a highly-respected reporter for much of its military affairs writing. This specialist was Hanson Baldwin, a Naval Academy graduate. Baldwin wrote in-depth and interpretive feature articles appearing frequently in the Sunday editorial section or the New York Times Magazine. Table 5, page 47, shows that this journal printed more editorials than features or letters to the editor. Yet Times' feature articles were found to occupy three times the amount of editorial space and over 12 times that filled by letters to the editor. Despite placing second to the Milwaukee Journal in total number of

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features printed within the study, the column inches comprising Times' feature writing led similar comment in the other four newspapers.

This information was verified in the complete data analysis but was not included in a table format.

The Chicago Tribune

The research determined that the Chicago Tribune, published by the military-minded Colonel Robert McCormick, printed 18.3 percent of the total military comment entering the study (see Table 2, page 44).

McCormick's large Midwest daily was third in both the item and volume analysis (see Tables 3 and 4, pages 45 and 46). The Tribune also did not use syndicated columnists on its editorial page.

This Republican Chicago daily was well-known for its strong isolationist attitude during the study's time frame. The newspaper was strongly against the New Deal and relentless in its attacks on President Roosevelt and his policies. The Tribune editorial policy is mentioned briefly here because this attitude seemed to affect the journal's comment regarding the armed forces and will be discussed in Chapter IV. McCormick's staff also made the editorial cartoon a powerful instrument in emphasizing the publisher's opinions. The Tribune printed a single editorial page seven days per week and did not present a section of opinion in its Sunday edition. Sunday photo and news magazine military features were evident but not numerous. It was noted however that the Tribune wrote more editorials concerning the armed forces in the late 1930s than any of the other dailies in

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the study (see Tables 5 through 9, pages 47 through 51).

The Los Angeles Times

The Los Angeles Times comment on military topics was very limited in the years leading to the war; but beginning in 19h2, the armed services became much more visible in this large West Coast journal (see Table 8, page 50). The Times contributed 17.2 percent of the study's coded items (see Table 2, page 44). In the late 1930s this Los Angeles newspaper used a single editorial page. By the late 1940s the Times had expanded to a second page of opinion.

Editorial cartoons were used in the Times to a moderate degree but not with the impact of those supporting editorial policy in the outspoken Chicago Tribune. Such graphic editorializing rarely involved military subject matter in this Los Angeles newspaper.

The Times, in the early years of the study, seemed to be both "Hollywood" and "sensationalism"-oriented. Its early attitude toward the United States armed forces was friendly both before and during World War II. By the late 19h0s this attitude had changed noticeably as the Times sought a role of increased social responsibility and a more questioning editorial policy.

The Milwaukee Journal

The Milwaukee Journal stood last among the five dailies in both item numbers and column inches of military comment. It carried 15.3 percent of the opinion analyzed in the research (see Table 2, page 44).

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The large Wisconsin daily wrote little comment about the country's military forces until 1940. The study showed that in the next ten years the <u>Journal</u> became much more interested in the defense establishment, especially in the area of editorial writing (see Table 9, page 51).

The <u>Journal</u> led the entire study in total number of feature articles. The reason seemed to lie in its editorial page make-up.

Although offering only a single page of daily comment to its readers, the <u>Journal</u> printed a feature article of approximately 60 column inches on this editorial page nearly each day. In addition, the newspaper offered a Sunday news magazine supplement which produced an occasional military feature.

The <u>Journal</u> often used an editorial cartoon on its front page but later relocated it to the editorial page. Few of these cartoons involved the armed services over the 13-year time period of the study.

Summary

The volume analysis served to clarify some additional points concerning military comment, expressed by the five newspapers selected for the research. Such comment rose from a generally low level in the early portion of the study to a peak during the war years. Following the conflict, as expected, this number diminished. Newspaper comment, however, never again fell to the level of the prewar period during which the press paid little attention to the United States military organization. It may be significant that military information programs

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generally seemed to improve in expertise and therefore helped to increase armed forces visibility through the same period. This improvement was seen in Chapter II. Certainly the war itself and the events involved in the Cold War were prime factors in this increased visibility, yet the analysis evidence opens the possibility of information efforts also being a factor. It should be noted that this trend was not entirely consistent when carried over to the column inches aspect of the volume analysis. When comparing the years 1937-39 with 1947-49, the Washington Post, the New York Times and the Chicago Tribune printed more column inches, but fewer articles, in the earlier period.

In this study the daily with the smallest circulation, the Washington Post (see Chapter I), outdistanced the much larger and more prestigious New York Times in total military comment. The Post's use of a large editorial input by syndicated columnists appeared to be the greatest contributing factor in causing this somewhat unexpected result. It might also be noted that the Post, like the New York Times, employed a specialized military reporter, John G. Norris, whose writing made up a large portion of the newspaper's numerous prewar military feature articles.

Hypothesis I was confirmed. For example, the range of difference between Washington Post military comment and that of the Milwaukee Journal was 10.7 percent in the item analysis and 13.7 percent in the column inches analysis (see Table 2, page 14). Again comparing the same newspapers, it was seen that the Post printed

nearly twice the number of column inches of military comment as published by the <u>Journal</u>. The tables disclosed similar wide variations between the five journals in type of item concentration. These are significant differences when using the same sample procedure with all newspapers over an identical time frame.

TABLE 2--A percentage analysis (number of items and column inches) of all comment coded for each newspaper over a 13-year (1937-49) period

	Washington Post	New York Times	Chicago Tribune	Los Angeles Times	Milwaukee	Potal
Percent	26.0	23.2	18.3	17.2	15.3	100
Number of items (all comment)	912	804	6311	2965	535	3,481
Percent	28.0	25.3	16.8	15.6	111.3	100
Column inches (all comment)	31,620	28,548	19,041	17,579	16,207	212,995

TABLE 3. -- A number of item analysis of all comment coded for each newspaper by year (1937-49)

	Wash	Washington Post		New York Times	3 2	Chicago Tribune	Los	Los Angeles Times	SALL	Nilwaukee Journal
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Wanber	Percent	Number	Percent
1937	87	5.	디	0.0	112	9.9	18	3.0	79	3.0
1938	25.	5.3	35	and de services	37	8	H	2.2	36	3.0
1939	L3	-	N	6.7	38	0,0	20	7	19	3.6
1940	78	80 7U	149	0.9	707	6.3	38	6.1.	53	75
1941	58	6.3	1.8	0.9	36	2.	37	6.2	63	11.8
1912	75	10.1	118	713.7	80	13.1	22	12.0		00
1943	26	10.3	101	13.0	55	3	70	80.	100	0.0
1961	22	8.3	100	12.5	63	0.	22	12.9	19	77.77
1945	66	10.8	76	11.3	29	10.6	22	12.0	19	7:17
1906	89	2.6	33	7.7	21	9.2	20	8.1.	25	10.1
1,947	C)	-7.	15	5.6	30		38	9.5	39	7.3
1948		50	12	5.2	77 C3	80	977	200	777	63
1949	28	20		ru ru		6.5	73	7.6	39	7.3
Total	912	100.0	807	100.0	634	100.0	596	100.0	535	100.0

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TABLE 4. -- A length of item (column inches) analysis for all comment coded for each newspaper by year (1937-1,9)

	Wash	Washington Post	New You	New York Times	T C	Chicago Tribune	Los	Los Angeles Times	ULIA JOD	Milwaukoe Journal
	Column inches	Percent	Column	Percent	Column	Percent	Column	Percent	Column inches	Percent
1937	1,493	E story	71,8	2.6	1,863	0,	106	5.7	321	2.0
1938	2,120	6.7	1,447	N	974	N	266	H	250	1.6
1939	2,673	00 Jul	3,833	13.h	583	3.0	924	50	320	2.0
1940	The state	12.8	1,274	1. C.	981	25	1,877	10.7	1,231	7.6
1,91,1	3,049	~	1,928	6.3	1,099	N. 30	2,437	13.9	2,632	16.2
1942	2,119	6.7	1,834	17.0	2,930	15.1	1,958	7.7	1,737	10.7
1943	1,064	3	L. Loh	15.5	2,981	73	2,132	12.1	2,360	75.5
12/4/4	3,252	Ho. J	3,326	7.1	1,919	10.0	1,500	(C)	2,780	17.2
3945	3,203	70	3,158	11.0	1,579	8.3	1,228	7.0	1,189	500 C.
1916	1,735	がが	382	-	850	10	766	7.	1,116	6.9
191:7	1,1186	4	710	50.	658	w 20	789	in the	893	N.
1948	206	S	1,026	m	1,750	9.7	1,908	10.9	951	2.0
1948	1.590	N O	1,178		831	4.3	893	N.	424	5.6
Potal	31,620	100.0	28,548	100.0	19,041	100.0	17,579	100.0	16,207	100.0

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TABLE 5.--A type of item analysis for the Washington Fost by year (1937-49)

	Editorial	Percent	Feature	Percent	Letter to the editor	Percent
937	25	7.2	اسا (م)	7.07	20	7.11
1938	27	3.5	2	11.5	23	7.5
939	d	7	ন্ত	16.1	03	2
0,16	217	0	17	13.7	and the same	0.8
547	pand 1	6.7	2	500	7	2.3
942	877	13.7		a. M	9	50.
943	rie o	13.2	යා	10 14	57	7.
1116	55	9.6		S. S.	9	3.4
2	00	12.7	ಣ	N.	1-4	7.
9/16	W CD	7.00	N	9.	CA CV	16.7
247	22	3.0	-:1	3.2	27	12.0
948	52	2.2	0	9.1	0\	10.9
1965	C\ \	9.6		Ci m	277	13.8
Total	611;	200.0	121	100.0	17.	100.0

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TABLE 6 .-- A type of item analysis for the New York Times by year (1937-49)

	Editorial	Percent	Feature	Percent	Letter to the editor	Percent
.937	N	- 17	3	2.2	7	20.0
938	lang Lono	2	2	0,	©	6.2
939	000	3.7		12.3	17	13.2
STO	M	6.5	Com	2,0	~	77
91,1	22	20.0	Cyl	3.6	05	7.0
942		13.8	27	17.3	20	73
943	5	77.0	26	18.7	M	63
377	300	74		12.2	m	2.3
345	grand A	2	Ä	0.04	9	Tie of
946	£\$	3.6	0	0	7	10.8
277	28	S.	Н	0.7	97	12.1:
21.0	33	7.V ©	and a col	2.9	*	37
19119	THE STATE OF THE S	7.9	antip Participal	0.0	9	9.2
Total.	5.39	100.0	139	100.0	129	100.0

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		THE .	160					10	E		MIN	000		

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TABLE 7.-- A type of item analysis for the Chicago Tribune by year (1937-49)

	Editorial	Percent	Feature	Percent	Letter to	Percent
937	20	5.6	හ	о. Л.	83	0.6
1938	50	5.6	2	8.3	7	9.7
939	32	7.0	2	~		1.6
940	52	6.3	M	6.0	10	6.8
777	26	5.6	70	0.9	20	25
942	2	25.0	0	8	and a second	L.6
500	38	0.00	5	15.5	and the second	7.0
5117	52	hong hong o		8		N. F.
25	0.37	1.0	9	2	19	21.6
940	grand	03	ground .	~	9	6.8
276	2	24		1.8	~	2
218	34	-	C	7	9	6.8
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TABLE 8. -- A type of item analysis for the Los Angeles Times by year (1937-49)

	Editorial	Percent	Festure	Percent	Letter to the editor	Percent
1937	6	1.9	6	13.7	0	0.0
1938	H	2.3	end.	ц	ri	F. C.
1939		3.0	N	7.6		m m
076	29	7.9	0	13.7	0	0.0
176	22.	2 = 17	4	7.67	2	J. 73
1942	\$\frac{1}{2}\$	72.21	60	12.1	N	8.8
.943	Tr.	12.0	Ø	4.64	N	8
7767	20	77.0		0.9	m	5.5
2115	77	0.24	N	3.0	4	22.8
946	917	2.6	0	0.0	77	7.0
19187	S	7.9	prod.	rd rd	£	12.3
1948	37	9.9	N	7.6	10	17.6
949	33	0.8	red	ri N	9	10.1
Total	473	100.0	99	100.0	77	100.0

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TABLE 9. -- A type of item analysis for the Milwaukee Journal by year (1937-1.9)

	Editorial	Percent	Feature	Percent	Letter to the editor	Percent
1937	(0)	ا ب	v	W. S.	27	7.9
938	ත	S. S.		හ. ග	not made	6.4
1939	-	2.5	9	~	9	0,
940	10	0.6	-	11.7	2	3.2
THE	50	2.6	2	18.6	-	17.5
191.2	123	φ •	27	60	W	7.9
1943	60	0,	2	0.1	N	3.2
137	3	N	6	13.1	~	4
1925	~	13.1	-	2.5	· P	6.1
200		Emply and a second and a second a secon	Line	e4 80	M	2.5
27.7	717	7.6	6	0.9	<i>``</i>	2.9
21.8	53	CO.	9	N		17.7
576T	esc.	30	m	5.0	M	2.0
rotar		200.0	21.5	100.0	63	100.0

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FOOTNOTES FOR CHAPTER III

William O. Aydelotte, "Quantification in History," The American Historical Review, LXXI, No. 3 (1966), p. 805.

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CHAPTER IV

THE DIRECTIONAL ANALYSIS

/A quantitative analysis establishes how many examples there are to support each side of the argument and thus reveals not only the main features of the evidence but also, more important, the exceptions to them, the nuances, the degree to which the emerging generalizations need to be qualified.

aspect of comment about the military found in the five influential dailies studied. It was first hypothesized that the comment in these dailies would show a mixed but gradual upward tendency in favorableness while approaching World war II, followed by a reversal and therefore a downward trend after the war. A temporary lowering of favorable attitude was predicted soon after Pearl Harbor, followed by a rapid upswing through the conflict. The predicted postwar drop in favor was forecast to reach an extremely low level with the inter-service struggle over the establishment of a Department of Defense in the late 1960s. A second hypothesis predicted that the five chosen newspapers would furnish measurable differences among themselves in direction of comment regarding the armed forces.

Hypothesis II was generally confirmed in both the wartime and postwar periods; however, it was not confirmed in the prewar years.

The prewar period was strongly mixed with an actual downward trend in favorability in all five newspapers during the 1939-10 segment.

Hypothesis III was confirmed. This was particularly evident in the

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wide difference noted in the directional analysis of the Chicago Tribune comment as compared to that of the other four journals.

These conclusions can be seen more clearly in Figure 1.

The directional analysis represented the heart of the information sought in this content study. As a result, a meaningful statistical test was determined to be necessary to further establish the validity of the figures acquired through the sampling procedure used. The Chi-square (x²) test seemed to offer a sound method for examination of the nominal data obtained. This test was used on each of the five newspapers of the study. The coded data in the three directional categories (i.e., favorable, neutral and unfavorable) for each newspaper was further separated into wartime and non-wartime contexts. The Chi-square test was then done to compare the expected and observed frequencies in both contexts. The null hypothesis was rejected for each of the study newspapers. In each case, the observed data was found to be statistically significant with a probability for error (p) of less than one chance in 1,000 using a constant two degrees of freedom (see Tables 10 through 14)

The Washington Post

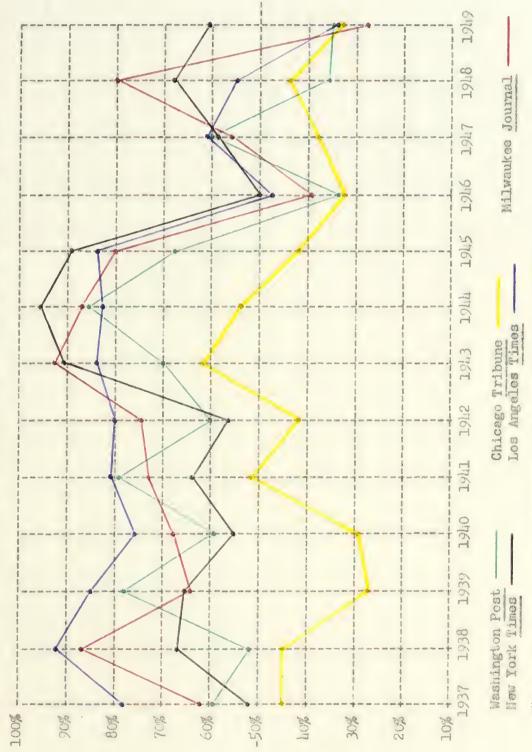
Washington Fost comment toward the military for the complete study time frame was found to be 58.7 percent favorable (see Table 15). This newspaper traced a varying but basically favorable pattern in its prewar comment regarding the armed forces. This pattern ranged from a 79 percent prewar height of favorability in 1941 to a 52 percent low in 1938. The Post's wartime military comment rose to

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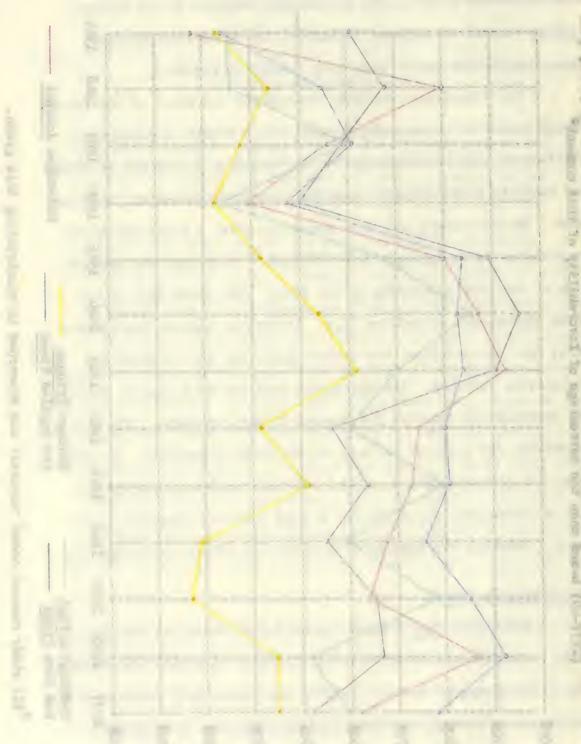
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FIGURE 1.--A directional analysis graph of all coded comment found in each newspaper by year (1937-49) based upon the percentage of favorability of this comment*



*All study comment coded "neutral" was discarded in constructing this graph.



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TABLE 10.--A Chi-square test comparison involving three directional categories in a wartime versus non-w rtime context for the Washington Post

	Gb	served			pected
	Wartime	Non-wartime	Total	Wartime	Non-wartime
Favorable	61.7%	1.5.9%	186	53.5%	53.3%
Neutral	9.8	9.0	84	9.2	9.2
Unfavorable	25.5	1,4,1	312	37.5	37.5
	100.0%	100.0%	912	100.0%	101.0%
	n = 326	n = 586		n = 325	n = 586
X ² (war vs.	non-war) =	32.30	p <.0		$x^2/n = .035$

TABLE 11.--A Chi-square test comparison involving three directional categories in a wartime versus non-wartime context for the New York Times

	Ob	served			pected
	Wartime	Non-wartime	Total	Wartime	Non-wartime
Favorable	72.3%	56.5%	517	64.3%	64.3%
Neutral	11.6	7.6	77	9.6	9.6
Unfavorable	16.1	35.9	510	26.1	26.1
	100.0%	100.0%	804	100.0%	101.0%
	n = 397	n = 407		n = 397	n = 107
X ² (war vs.	non-war) =	· 14.12	p == <, (to deal return view carro return ten'il testio return qualiforni en):	$x^2/n = .017$

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TABLE 12.-- A Chi-square test comparison involving three directional categories in a wartime versus non-wartime context for the Chicago Tribune

	0b	served		Ez	spected
	Wartime	Non-wartime		Wartime	Non-wartime
Favorable	48.8%	33.5%	250	39.1%	39.4%
Neutral	6.9	5.7	39	6.1	6.1
Unfavorable	14.3	60.8	345	54.5	54.5
	100.0%	100.0%	631	100.0%	10.0%
	n = 246	n = 388		n = 246	n = 388
X ² (war vs.	non-war) =	16.84	p · <.0	01	$x^2/n = .026$

TABLE 13.--A Chi-square test comparison involving three directional categories in a wartime versus non-wartime context for the Los Angeles Times

	Ob	served			pected
	Wartime	Non-wartime	Total	Wart ime	Non-wartime
Favorable	71.6%	56.6%	378	63.1%	63.4%
Neutral	14.4	9.6	70	11.7	11.7
Unfavorable	14.0	33.8	11.8	24.9	24.)
	100.0%	100.0%	596	100.0%	101.0%
	n = 271	n = 325		n = 271	n = 325
X ² (war vs.	non-war) =	31.57	p <.()	no ar ar no as re rer no mi m e Ol	$x^2/n = .053$

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TABLE 1h. -- A Chi-square test comparison involving three directional categories in a wartime versus non-wartime context for the kilwaukee Journal

	010	served		Ex	pected
	Wartime	Non-wartime	Total	Wartime	Non-wartime
Favorable	75.9%	55.7%	338	63.2%	63.2%
Neutral	5.1	8.3	16	8.6	8.6
Unfavorable	15.0	36.0	151	28.2	28.2
	100.0%	10.0%	535	100.0%	10:04
	11 = 19/	n = 336		n = 199	n = 336
x ² (wer vs.	non-war) =	27.61	p <.0	, with filler today to the state state state that the two	x2/n = .051

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86 percent favorable in 1914 then dropped away rapidly to postwar lows of 33 percent in both 1946 and 1949. The heaviest volume of favorable comment was seen in the war years 1943-45. The heaviest volume of unfavorable comment was noted in 1946.

TABLE 15 .-- An item directional analysis of all comment coded for the Washington Post by year (1937-49)*

	Favo	rable	Neu	tral	Unfav	rorable
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1937	27	5.6	2	2.1	19	5.6
1938	24	1.9	7	8.3	21	6.1
1939	31	6.4	3	3.6	9	2.6
1940	1	9.1	3	3.6	31	9.0
1941	37	7.6	11	13.1	10	2.9
1942	48	9.9	14	16.7	32	9.4
1.943	58	11.9	9	10.7	25	7.3
1944	60	12.3	6	7.1	10	2.9
1945	60	12.3	9	10.7	30	8.8
1946	25	6.0	3	3.6	57	16.7
1947	26	5.3	6	7.1	17	5.0
1948	15	3.1	24	4.8	28	8.2
1949	27	5.6	7	8.3	53	15.5
Total	486	100.0	84	100.0	31;2	160.0

The overall percentage of favorability of military comment found in the Post in the study time frame was 58.7. This percentage computation discarded all comment coded "NEUTRAL."

The Post's prewar comment about the American armed services was mixed. It was exemplified in a 1940 column written by Barnet Nover. He wrote:

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. . . The history of democratic nations at war has tended to confirm the popular democratic belief that civilian control of military affairs is essential to national welfare. . . .

On the other hand, there are also many cases where the civilian control of military affairs had a deleterious effect on the conduct of war.

Policy" in the current issue of Foreign Affairs, Lindsay Rogers makes the excellent point that a cabinet minister "must be more than the uncomprehending mouthpiece of a chief of staff or war lord." As Clemenceau said, "war is much too important a business to be left to the soldiers." Yet neither can it be left wholly to the civilians.

Statesmen and soldiers must complement each other.3

The fluctuating pattern of Post prewar military comment is plainly evident in Figure 1.

A marked increase in favorable comment was unmistakable during the war. The Post frequently praised the efforts of American troops even in defeat. A 1942 editorial entitled, "Spirit of Bataan," said:

. . . If Americans are worthy of their traditions, this example of courage, fortitude and tenacity in the face of overwhelming odds may prove to be of even greater significance than the losses of time, equipment and men. . . if all America is actuated by the Spirit of Bataan, victory cannot be denied us.

The postwar period saw a rapid change of direction in Post military comment. The majority of this comment between 1946-49 was unfavorable. Post columnist, Ernest Lindley, writing just prior to the Japanese surrender in July, 1945, foresaw a reversal of press attitude after the war. He wrote:

^{. . .} during the war the general tendency has been to "go easy" in criticizing the brass hats.

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Many of the higher officers in the armed services, have been working for more than 4 1/2 years behind temporary safeguards. Some of their decisions have been screened by censorship. The censorship rules were a necessary safeguard to our security. But they have also protected, to some extent, officers who made mistakes.

. . . publicly the professionals have not been subjected to the close scrutiny and free criticism which they can expect in peacetime. They have been living in temporary hot houses. Some of them have become so accustomed to it that they may find it hard to readjust themselves to the rigers of open examination and public criticism. . . . 5

Lindley's statement signaled the beginning of this change of attitude in the Post. A condition that the press called the "military mind" became the object of Post criticism in 1946. In January, 1946, a Post editorial said, ". . . the military mind has always been contemptuous of constitutions and parliaments." The Navy, suffering from an ineffective PR effort in the late 1940s as seen in Chapter II, received particularly unfavorable comment in the postwar Post. A 1946 editorial spoke of "antidiluvian elements in the Navy" when discussing the opposition of the sea service to the proposed armed forces, unification issue.

The New York Times

The New York Times military comment was 71.1 percent favorable in the study sample (see Table 16). The research revealed that the Times never dropped below 50 percent favorability toward the military in any year of the study. It was the only newspaper of the five analyzed to have this distinction. The Times' prewar military writing was consistently near 60 percent favorability. The newspaper's wartime comment was strongly favorable, reaching a high mark of 96

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 percent in 19hh. The predicted postwar drop was evident as the Times' comment again returned to an approximate 60 percent level of favorability (see Figure 1).

TABLE 16. -- An item directional analysis of all comment coded for the New York Times by year (1937-49)*

	Favo	rable	Neu	itral	Unfav	rorable
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1937	20	3.9	3	3.9	18	8.6
1938	22	1.3	2	2.6	11	5.2
1939	33	6.1	0 0	5.2	17	8.1
1940	24	4.6	6	7.7	19	9.0
1941	30	5.8	1	1.3	17	8.1
191,2	58	11.2	14	18.2	46	21.9
1943	86	16.6	10	13.0	8	3.8
19山	82	16.0	15	19.5	3	1.1.
1945	73	14.1	7	9.1	11	5.2
1946	16	3.1	1	1.3	16	7.7
1947	21,	4.6		5.2	17	8.1
1948	24	4.6	7	9.1	11	5.2
1949	25	4.8	3	3.9	16	7.7
Total	517	100.0	77	100.0	210	100.0

The overall percentage of favorability of military comment found in the Times in the study time frame was 71.1. This percentage computation discarded all comment coded "MEUTRAL."

In the years leading to World War II, New York Times comment emphasized the growing strength of the American military but did not speak highly of its abilities. An April, 1941 editorial said, "... We are building a mass army, but we have not yet achieved an army of

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high quality."8

The Times' military comment dropped in favorability early in 19h2 as the Army and Navy were criticized for complacency and incompetence at Pearl Harbor, ground losses in the Philippines and shipping losses in the Atlantic. Yet the newspaper did not completely stop backing the armed forces. A reader letter appearing in a January, 19h2 edition showed that the Times would not be shaken into printing predominately unfavorable attacks on the military at that crucial time. The letter said:

. . . I shall "Remember Pearl Harbor," but not as a dreadful example of Japanese treachery and most certainly not as a blot on the record of the armed forces of the United States. I shall remember Pearl Harbor as a monument to the capacity of too many of my fellow-countrymen for complacency, hypocrisy and self-deception. 9

Later in the conflict, the Times staunchly supported the armed forces.

A 19th editorial entitled, "A Day For The Army," illustrated this support and also revealed considerable foresight on the part of the Times. It said:

The Army is our sons. It is even, to some extent, our daughters. Its discipline-its military culture-has become familiar. It is a part of the nation, not an alien element.

We cannot know the future, but we must infer that in years to come . . . the Army will be a part of our lives as it never has been before in peacetime. 10

Another editorial written in the same year again spoke of the importance of the American postwar military:

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... The military policy which this country pursues after the war, and the size, the basis and the organization-in short, the effectiveness-of the armed forces which it maintains are such important factors in the modern world that they will profoundly influence all other problems now under discussion. They will influence our political, social and economic life and the whole national psychology.

The pestwar period saw a pronounced drop in the percentage of favorability found in New York Times' military comment. The influential Times sought, in the confused aftermath of the war, to throw strong support behind armed forces' unification. In so doing, it often discussed military deficiencies that indicated to the Times that such a merger was necessary. It wrote:

. . . The vitally important thing, clear as crystal since Pearl Harbor, was to put an end to separate Army and Navy planning-planning which involved useless duplication of effort, wasteful competition for Congressional appropriations and worse than wasteful failure to see the whole defense problem as a single picture--and to substitute for this traditional but outmoded system central control and direction at the highest level. 12

An article by Drew Middleton in an April, 1948 New York Times Sunday Magazine also exemplified the increase in unfavorable postwar military comment. Middleton, writing in a feature entitled, "The Enigma Called 'The Military Mind, " said:

... There have been doubts expressed as to whether military men should be entrusted with high political office. . . . they /the people/ object to what they consider the soldier's special cast of mind, which stems from his profession. . . . His respect for authority, his belief in discipline, his reluctance to embrace the radical. . . . The result is frequently an instinctive impatience with those who do not conform to his code. . . . the civilian usually has a more open, more elastic mind than the soldier or sailor. . . .

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 But perhaps the most serious of all difficulties facing the average military man in a political job is his instinctive attitude toward the people. To him the people of the United States is "a great beast," unpredictable, cruel, lacking in gratitude and good sense.13

Despite the postwar drop in favorability, the majority of Times' comment was still pro-military. A 1949 editorial entitled, "Brass Hats," spoke of the comments of Bernard Baruch regarding the "patriotic contributions to the nation of the United States Army, Navy and Air Force leaders." Baruch was quoted by the Times as linking professional soldiering with a love of liberty. "It The Times also praised Secretary of Defense Johnson in 1949 for his stand against discrimination. It wrote: "Defense Secretary Johnson's directive against racial discrimination in the armed services is sound in principle and practical in its approach." 15

The Chicago Tribune

The research sample determined that the majority of the Chicago Tribune's military comment during the study time frame was unfavorable (see Table 17). The Tribune was the only daily studied returning this result. It was found that favorability in this newspaper was 42 percent. In only three of the 13 years analyzed did the Tribune rise above 50 percent in comment favorable to the armed forces. These were 52 percent in 1961, a high of 62 percent in 1963 and 56 percent in 1964. The lowest percentage reached in a single year for any of the five newspapers studied, was the Tribune's 26 percent in 1939. It was during this first year of the war in Europe that Colonel McCormick, editor and publisher of the Tribune, sought to

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influence the newspaper's readers toward isolationism and strict neutrality. This policy seemed to result in frequent hostile Tribune comment against the military. Wartime Tribune editorial writing climbed to higher levels of favorability but was significantly lower than the other four newspapers. Postwar military comment returned to near the 40 percent favorable level (see Figure 1).

TABLE 17. -- An item directional analysis of all comment coded for the Chicago Tribune by year (1937-49)*

	Favo	rable	Neu	tral	Unfav	rorable
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1937	1.8	7.2	aldhamanican-aggaditima-is-androide eachgei	2.6	23	6.7
1938	16	6.li	1	2.6	20	5.9
1939	9	3.6	3	7.7	26	7.5
1940	11	1 2.1.	2	5.1	27	7.8
1941	11,	5.6	2	5.1	50	5.9
1942	33	13.2	6	15.4	1.6	13.3
1943	34	13.6	0	0.0	21	6.1
1944	29	11.6	9	23.	25	7.2
1945	27	10.8	3	7.7	37	10.7
1946	14	5.6	5	12.8	27	8.4
1947	10	4.0	3	7.7	17	4= >
1948	23	9.2	1	2.6	28	8.1
1949	12	4.8	3	7.7	26	7.5
Total	250	100.0	39	100.0	345	100.0

The overall percentage of favorability of military comment found in the Tribune in the study time frame was 12.0. This percentage computation discarded all comment coded "NEUTRAL."

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Two editorials printed in 1938 and 1740 respectively displayed the sharpness of much of the Tribune's prewar comment toward the military:

The second vividly reflected the Tribune's position on the prewar draft:

. . . If conscription is adopted now . . . all of the lazy and incompetent officers in the army will be safe. They will not have to think. They can retire to the bembproofs of routine, so busying themselves with useless tasks that they will have no time to learn how to fight a modern war. 17

The Tribune's prewar military attitude can also be seen in a 1939 editorial reflecting on the World War I efforts of our armed forces. It said:

. . . The officers spent the first six months of the war trying on new uniforms and otherwise enjoying themselves, with the result that no war was made. As late as August, 1918, the army ordnance corps had not yet decided what kind of cannon it would manufacture when it got around to that manufacture.

The army was bad enough, but the navy was even werse. A small part of it became a squadron in the British fleet and the rest of it was very busy, indeed, in the more attractive metropolitan areas of our country. Many an engagement took place in Chicago's loop.

The beginning of the war saw little change in Tribune comment toward the armed forces. It remained predominently negative. Navy

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censorship and one of its PR officers were strongly criticized in an October, 1/42 editorial:

. . . it was officially admitted that /Secretary of the Navy/ Knox deceived the nation in his Pearl Harbor report. The admission came in a speech by the navy's chief press agent, Capt. Leland P. Lovette. . . .

Certain elements in the navy are as much to blame for what is happening as is the secretary. They are out of touch with public opinion and consider that the justifiable public demand for news of what is going on can be repulsed in an arbitrary manner.

Stupidly, they do not see the damage they do to national morale.

After censuring the United States military efforts through the bitter defeats of Pearl Harbor and early 19h2, the Tribune slowly became more favorable later in the war. This, however, was far from a strong shift. In a July, 19hh editorial the Tribune praised both the American fighting forces and industry but used the article to attack President Roosevelt. The piece, entitled "That Military Genius in the White House," said:

. . . If we have recovered from our initial blunders, the credit goes chiefly to the same American industry that thruout /sic/ his administration Mr. Roosevelt has harassed; and to the gallantry of the American fighting men whose self-reliance Mr. Roosevelt has persistently, but unsuccessfully, sought to destroy.²⁰

The postwar Tribune again returned to editorializing against deficiencies within the military system. Military justice, the officer corps, the military "caste system," corruption among American occupational troops and a laggard discharge rate were some of the alleged shortcomings that became subjects for Tribune comment against the

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armed services after the war. In April, 1916, an editorial entitled, "Military Burocracy /sic7" said:

. . . For the first time in our history the army really got its hands on the civilian economy during the war. It is reluctant to let go. If its hold is not shaken loose and the number of its officers reduced to sensible proportions this country will be cursed permenently by a military caste as arrogant, and ultimately as anti-republican, as was the military caste of Prussia. 21

Late in 1946, the Tribune hired retired Navy Vice Admiral Fredrick C.

Sherman to write analytical articles concerning naval affairs for the newspaper. Sherman's hiring seemed to mark a slight turning point in Tribune editorial policy toward the military. After this event, Sherman wrote several feature pieces partial to the Navy and the Tribune's comment toward the armed forces began to be somewhat more favorable.

Yet, in the next two years it never reached 50 percent favorability and again dropped to only 32 percent in 1947. Figure 1 shows these fluctuations.

The Los Angeles Times

The Los Angeles Times' comment regarding the military was 71.9 percent favorable over the time frame of the study (see Table 18).

This represented the highest favorable percentage of the five papers exemined. This large West Coast journal was strongly favorable in commenting on the services in the prewer and war years but was found to drop significantly after the war (see Figure 1). It reached a peak in favorable comment of 92 percent in 1938, carried through the war with all yearly figures in excess of 80 percent favorable and

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dropped rapidly in the postwar period to a low of 33 percent in 1949.

TABLE 18. -- An item directional enalysis of all comment coded for the Los Angeles Times by year (1937-19)*

	Favo	rable	Neu	tral	Unfav	orable
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1937	14	3.7	0	0.0	22	2.7
1938	11	2.9	1	1.4	1	0.7
1939	16	4.3	1	1.4	3	2.0
1940	24	6.3	6	8.6	8	5.4
1941	29	7.7	* ing	1.1	7	4.7
1942	10	10.6	55	31.4	10	6.8
1943	51.	113	6	8.6	10	6.8
1944	57	15.1	8	11.4	12	8.0
1945	Sh	14.3	8	11.4	10	6.8
1)46	19	5.0	10	14.3	21	112
1947	22	5.8	2	2.9	14	9.5
1948	24	6.3	3	4.3	19	12.8
1949	The second of th	3.7	2	2.7	29	19.6
Total	378	100.0	70	161.0	12,8	100.0

The overall percentage of favorability of military comment found in the Times in the study time frame was 71.9. This percentage computation discarded all comment coded "NEUTRAL."

The prewar West Coast attitude toward the armed forces was clearly seen in a San Francisco Chronicle editorial which appeared in the Los Angeles Times in July, 1939. The editorial was entitled, "Bring the Fleet Back!," and expressed the desire that the slips that the Navy had relocated to the Los Angeles area be returned to homeport at San Francisco where they had tied up previously. 22 Times' comment

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indicated that the Navy was also welcome in Los Angeles.

Wartime comment by the <u>Times</u> continued favorable. Writer Lee Shippey in his daily column called, "Leeside," said of the armed forces in 1944, ". . . This war is such a co-operative thing that Army, Navy and Coast Guard work together so you can hardly tell which is which." When General Stillwell was recalled from China in late 1944 after an alleged conflict of opinion with Chisng Kai-Shek, the <u>Times</u> supported him and wrote, ". . . How successful he has been . . . is indicated by the fact that it will take two generals to replace him."

The postwar years saw a decrease in the favorability of Times' military comment. In 1946 the sample indicated that the Los Angeles Times, for the first time in the study, dropped below 50 percent in comment favorable to the armed services. After a rise in 1947, a second sharp decline was noted in 1948-49. The 1946 drop was exemplified by a Times' editorial in April of that year. It disclosed the growing inter-service quarreling that influenced the research findings in all five study newspapers. It said:

... the vicious campaign carried on by some Navy men against MacArthur has not diminished the esteem in which most of the people of the United States hold the general's unusual talents.

In 1948 Joseph and Stuart Alsop wrote, "... in the interests of national security, it is essential that the long drawn out feuding between the services be brought to an end." A 1949 Times' editorial entitled, "Let Us Have Peace!," said:

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... It /the Navy-Air Force feud/ has been fought too long in the dark recesses of the Pentagon and the twilight of anonymous memoranda and premeditated "leaks" of official correspondence.
... For ... it will not be the planners in Washington who will determine the exact shape of World War III ... It will be the enemy. And that enemy is counting heavily on the disunity which he believes, not without evidence, is the fatal weakness of freedom.

The Milwaukes Journal

Military comment in the Milwaukee Journal sample was 69.1 percent favorable over the time span of the study (see Table 17). The Journal's prewar comment rose gradually with the exception of a steep rise to 87 percent favorable in 1938. There was no early war drop in 1942. Later wartime comment was very favorable, reaching a peak of 93 percent in 1943. A large postwar drop emerged when favorability slid from 80 percent in 1945 to 33 percent in 1946. Another sharp climb occurred through 1947-48 followed by a plunge to a study low for the Journal of 28 percent in 1949 (see Figure 1).

Journal prewar military comment was limited, routine and generally favorable. The usual praises were recorded on Army and Navy Day and an occasional friendly feature article was written as the nation approached the war. Although the percentage of favorable comment toward the military did not diminish in 19h2, the Journal did express editorial dissatisfaction with the Navy at Pearl Harbor. It wrote:

To the error on the U.S. Navy's record for its negligence at Pearl Harbor must now be added another regrettable mark. The Navy reported 11 Milwaukeeans as dead after the debacle. . . . at making high med and the female an

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But one by one . . . it has been proved that all these men were not killed. Today only two . . . are "still dead." The Navy was not only not alert to defend Pearl Harbor, but it was not even prepared to report, with any semblance of efficiency, its losses. . . . 28

TABLE 19. -- An item directional analysis of all comment coded for the Milwaukee Journal by year (1937-19)*

	Pavo	rable	Neu	stral	Unfav	orable
	Humber	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1937	10	3.0	()	0.0	6	4.0
1938	14	4.1	0	0.0	2	1.2
1939	11	3.3	2	4.3	6	1.0
1940	17	5.0	11	8.7	8	5.3
1941	40	11.8	8	17.1.	15	9.9
1942	32	9.5	-the	2.3	13.	7.3
1943	1	11.8	5	10.9	3	2.0
1911.	1,0	13.6	8	17.1	7	4.6
1945	1:1:	13.0	6	13.0	11.	7.3
1946	21	6.2	5	4.3	33	21.9
191:7	20	5.9	3	6.5	16	10.6
1948	33	9.8	3	6.5	8	5.3
1949	10	3.0	Para Comp	8.7	25	16.6
Total	338	100.0	46	100.0	151	100.0

The overall percentage of favorability of military comment found in the Journal in the study time frame was 69.1. This percentage computation discarded all comment coded "NEUTRAL."

As the war progressed, Journal military comment became quite favorable. In 1943 it said, ". . . Americans may be proud of their fighting forces, in camps, on leave, in front line positions." In 1945 the newspaper supported General Eisenhower despite some public

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criticism of the Allied high command during the "Battle of the Bulge."

It wrote:

. . . Gen. Eisenhower loomed as great as /sic/ commander and leader in the dark hours of reverse as he did during the brillient successes in France. By that standard, he deserves of the British and American home fronts a loyalty as complete as that he has won from his closest military associates. 30

The postwar period found the Milwaukee Journal mixed in attitude toward the military. Journal comment was 39 percent favorable in 1946. In July, 1946 the newspaper wrote in an editorial entitled, "And Unification is Delayed:"

There is no longer the slightest doubt that divided command, interservice rivalries, and lack of army and navy co-ordination and liason invited just such a terrible military disaster as the nation suffered at Pearl Harbor. 31

After a steady climb in fevorability in 1917-18, the Journal sharply withdrew its editorial support from the armed services in 1949.

Again, the inter-service quarrel between primarily the Air Force and Nevy seemed to effer the reason for the change. In October, 1949 the Journal, writing on President Truman's dismissal of Admiral Denfeld as Chief of Naval Operations, said in an editorial entitled,

"The Admiral Couldn't Stay":

. . . The commander in chief could not surrender to what Gen. Bradley called the open rebellion of the navy against the unification program and against the traditional American principle of civilian centrol of the armed ferces . . . these navy officers tried to defeat the law of the United States. 32

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The Headline Analysis

The headline analysis showed that the sample headlines were strongly non-directional (see Table 20). It also revealed that, of those headlines that were determined to be directional, there was a strong correlation with the findings in the item directional analysis. The Washington Post percentage of favorability for the item analysis was 58.7 and its headline favorability percentage was 55.0. The same figures for the New York Times were 71.1 percent and 71.h percent; for the Chicago Tribune, h2.0 percent and 37.1 percent; for the Los Angeles Times, 71.9 percent and 66.3 percent; and for the Milwaukee Journal, 69.1 percent and 62.0 percent. As in the item directional analysis, only the Tribune printed more unfavorable than favorable headlines regarding the armed forces.

The Graphics Analysis

The graphics analysis determined that the five newspapers studied used little graphic material when commenting on military matter over the study time frame (see Table 21). The graphic material that was judged to be directional in the sampled newspapers was strongly favorable in each. There was no close correlation between the directional graphic material and the item directional analysis as was seen with the headlines. The New York Times led in percentage of favorability of the directional graphic material. The figure was 95.0 percent. The Washington Post had the lowest favorability percentage. This was 86.5 percent. The Chicago Tribune, which had commented the least favorably toward the armed services of the five newspapers in

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TABLE 20.--A directional analysis of the headlines of all coded comment for each newspaper over a 13-year (1937-19) period

		Washington	New	New York Times	SE	Chicago	Los A	Los Angeles Times	MIL	Milwewkee
	Munder	Number Percent	Number	Percont	Number	Number Percent	Number	Number Percent	Munber	Number Percent
Favorable	덖	17.0	228	200.3	977	16.3	57	32.1.	152	28.1
Reutrel	629	0.69	170	50.6	321	50.0	288	£8.3	288	53.8
Unfavorable	126	50.6	5	11.3	196	30.9	8	16.1	93	13.2
Noise	m	0	Ó	0	~	Ö	2	0	C.	0.
Total	72.2	700.0	80F	700.0	632	700.0	23.9	100.0	535	100.0
Percentage of favorability (Neutral read- lines discarded)	3	J. C.		110		250		66.3		62.0

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TABLE 21.--A directional analysis of the graphic matter (photographs and editorial cartoons) of all coded comment for each newspaper over a 13-year (1937-49) period

	Wash	Washington Post	New	New York Times	Tri	Chicago	Los	Los Angeles Times	Milw	Milweukee Journal
1 2	umber	Wumber Percent	Number.	Mumber Percent	Number	Number Percent	Number	Number Percent	Number	Number Percent
Favorable	109	72.0	T	14.2	್ಟ	12.6	700	16.8	7.7	10.0
Montral	72	2.3	d	2.6	grad .	6.0	7	5	75	12.0
Unfavorable	7	0	S	0.0		-	~	4	ru.	7.0
None	365	83.9	699	82.5	530	33.6	000	80.2	27.3	77.0
Total	212	100.0	80L	100.0	631	100.0	596	100.0	535	100.0
Percentage of favorability (Neutral graphic matter discarded)		8		95.0		91.9		W. W.		4

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346	2000	augh.	3.5	8.2	26.0	Name and	ning offsyna
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the item and headline directional analyses, showed highly favorable in the directional graphic material analysis. The percentage was 91.9.

Sumary

The directional analysis showed that the combined attitude of the five newspapers examined was favorable toward the military. Only the Chicago Tribune showed an overall unfavorable average within the entire time frame of the study. A strong variance was discovered between the Tribune and the other newspapers used in the research. The significance of the Tribune's unfavorable comment, however, did not change the essential finding. The Washington Post's attitude toward the armed services, although favorable in the research, was not strongly so. The remaining three newspapers showed more obvious strength in supporting the nation's military forces. The findings were consistent in both the item and headlines analyses for each newspaper, but this was not seen in the graphic matter analysis. These results seem to establish the validity of Hypothesis III.

time frame used. The wide variance between the comment found in the Chicago Tribune and that of the other four journals was clearly evident and one of the most significant findings of the study. The consistency of comment found in the New York Times was also apparent. In wartime this daily's comment was about 90 percent favorable, and in both prewar and postwar the favorability was consistently near 60 percent. There was also an obvious drop in favorability by all five newspapers immediately following World War II. Finally, the fluctuating favorability

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of comment seen in the prewar years disclosed no clear pattern. These were years of relatively limited comment on military topics. The favorability of comment declined in 19h2 in four of the five dailies. The only newspaper to record an increase in the first year of the war was the Milwaukee Journal. This increase was one percent.

The test of Hypothesis II returned inconclusive findings based on the patterns outlined above. There was no gradual upward tendency in favorableness seen in the prewar period. The predicted lowering of favorability was seen in 1942, however the declines were not sharp. The favorability foreseen for the war period was evident and the downward trend expected afterward was strongly evident. The validity of the author's "Tommy theory" will be discussed in the concluding chapter.

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FOOTNOTES FOR CHAPTER IV

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An excellent explanation of the Chi-square test is contained in: John E. Alman and David M. White, "Statistical Methods in Communications Research," in Introduction to Mass Communications Research, ed. by Ralph O. Nafziger and David M. White (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1963), pp. 139-bh.

3Editorial, Washington Post, January 10, 1940, sec. 1, p. 11.

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⁷Ibid., July 31, 1916, sec. 1, p. 12.

8 Editorial, New York Times, April 6, 1961, sec. 1, p. 16.

Letter to the Editor, New York Times, January 28, 1942, sec. 1, p. 18.

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ll Ibid., April 27, 19hk, sec. 1, p. 22.

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- 22 Editorial, Los Angeles Timos, July 27, 1939, sec. 2, p. L.
- 23 Ibid., July 12, 1944, sec. 2, p. 4.
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CHAPTER V

THE FOCUS ANALYSIS

... Since /a quantitative presentation/ brings ... the evidence ... into intelligible focus ... relationships and differences emerge that could not so easily have been observed without this reduction of the data. Such an analysis reveals what events or issues were of special interest ...

The test of Hypothesis IV analyzed the emphasis of the military comment found in the five influential dailies studied. It was hypothesized that the focus (i.e., major emphasis or central theme with military implications) of the comment would be similar across the five newspapers studied. This hypothesis was generally confirmed but some minor inconsistencies were noted.

The focus analysis was divided into the seven sub-categories listed and defined in Appendix A. Three new sub-periods were established within the time frame of the study for analyzing the focus material. These were: prewar (1937-11), wartime (1942-15) and postwar 1916-19).

The Washington Post

The research showed that the management sub-category was the unit most frequently found in the Washington Post's military comment (see Table 22). This sub-category was heavily dispersed through each of the three sub-periods, however, a plurality was found in the postwar segment. In a January, 1968 editorial the Post wrote:

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TABLE 22. -- A number of item and percentage focus analysis of the Washington Post between 1937-49 (divided into three sub-periods)

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	· ·	No. Pet.	OM	No. Pct.	No.	No. Pet.	No.	No. Pet.	No.	No. Pet.	MO.	Pct.	No.	No. Pet.
Prewer 1937-41		37 14.1	(m)	38.8	~	0.16	8	39 32.5	8	(A)		O.	F.	28.0
Wartime 1912-15	33		-		0	0	george of normal	The state of the s	8	0.98	27	173 76.0	e e	28.0
Postwar 1946-49	9	97	3	23	~	9	and the property of the proper	Carelo	FEG	116 li6.t	-		33	0.17
Total.	90	90 100.0	1.9	L9 2,000 and	The same of the sa	33 100.0	720	100.0	317	327 3.000	228	100.0	22	75 100.0

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In seeking a means to halt the leakage of information vital to the national security, Defense Secretary Forrestal must compromise between two dangers. One . . . is the harm that can be done if through indescretion important data in the realm of military research and technical progress continue to be made available to potential enemies The danger on the other side is that the corrective will be more extreme than necessary 2

This editorial was an example of Post comment focusing on military management after World War II.

Table 22 also revealed that armed forces' strategy was often the point of emphasis in Post comment. This sub-category was mentioned second only to management in this newspaper. It was readily seen that the great majority of this material was written during the wartime period. This area of comment was found to center predominately on American military accomplishments or setbacks in armed conflict with the enemy.

The writer watched closely throughout the research for press comment regarding attitudes on defense spending. Little was forth-coming. (Economic items ranked last among the study's seven subcategories.) It was interesting to note, however, that the limited Post economic comment was confined almost exclusively to the prewar period. Thirty of the 33 coded Post economic items were found during this sub-period. It should also be stated that additional economic comment was found in several items coded as combination. Economic and other focus sub-categories were often noted in the same article. This situation was readily apparent in an editorial written in July, 1910 that said: "... We are assured billions for defense. What we lack is the organization and intelligent leadership required for

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their effective utilization." This editorial touched each of three sub-categories: management, economic and leadership. The Post led all study newspapers in the number of individual items classified in this manner. Eight and two-tenths percent of all Post items were placed in this sub-category.

The New York Times

The New York Times focused the greatest amount of its published military comment in the sub-category of strategy (see Table 23). The majority of this opinion was published in the wartime sub-period.

However, military planning and preparedness was also heavily emphasized in the late prewar period. In a July, 19h2 editorial entitled, "The Navy Relaxes Perfectionism Somewhat," Arthur Krock wrote:

. . . pleas were made repeatedly without result in newspaper departments like this one long after it had become evident that existing anti-submarine methods were insufficient. . . . it is higher than high time for the Navy to concentrate all anti-submarine craft off our coasts.

This recommendation by Krock was an excellent example of Times' comment regarding armed forces' strategic planning. The Times was particularly outspoken against the strategy employed by the American military in 19h2. That year ranked as one of the most unsuccessful in United States military history. Such factors as the shock and disillusionment of public and Army/Navy complacency leading to Pearl Harbor, the successful invasion by the Japanese of the Aleutian Islands, and severe naval and troop losses in the Solomon Islands caused considerable critical comment in this eminent New York newspaper

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TABLE 23. -- A number of item and percentage focus analysis of the New York Times between 1937-49 (divided into three sub-periods)

	200	(1) Social	Poli	(2) Political) Beo	(3) Economic	Load	(i) (ii) Topaol	Manag	(5) Mensgerent	Str	(6) Strategy	(7) Combination	7) nation
	MO.	No. Pct.	No. Pt	No. Pot.	No.	No. Pet.	No.	No. Pot.	No.	No. Pet.	No.	No. Pet.	0	Mo. Pet.
Prevar	X	26.0	Ä	0.03	7	24 72.7	25	32 25.4	2	76 10.9	35	39 13.7	2	10 63.0
Wartime 1942-45	899	53	67	0	N	2 6.0	77	56 15.0	ground gr	Email of the control	230	239 83.8	N	2 72.0
Postwar 1946-49	8	23 18.8			Loren	27.5	R	36 28.6	69	69 37.0	C	er, Fu	and	28.0
Total	123	123 100.0	35	35 100.0	1	33 100.0 126 100.0	126	100.0	186		285	285 100.0	1	16 100.0

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during the first year of the war. Strategy continued to be heavily editorialized through the war but was dramatically reversed in direction as was seen in Chapter IV.

Armed forces' management was the second most popular theme.

The Times utilized this sub-category nearly equally in both the prewar and postwar contexts. The postwar period saw the advent of a military organizational crisis that kept armed forces management extremely visible on most of the opinion pages of the country's newspapers. This crisis involved military unification and the establishment of the Department of Defense.

The Times printed frequent socially significant comment regarding the military. For purposes of this study all comment concerning armed forces' censorship and propaganda activity was classified as social. During the early part of the war the Times editorialized extensively on this topic. Many reader letters on the subject were also printed by the Times.

The Chicago Tribune

The Chicago Tribune was found to place its primary focal emphasis in this study on the management sub-category (see Table 2b). This emphasis was evenly spread over the three sub-periods outlined earlier. Typical of prewar Tribune comment was this editorial entitled, "An Army or a Mob?," that deplored the Army's southern training camps:

^{. . .} If the army will bring up the rest of our troops from the concentration camps in the south . . . put them in decent barracks

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TABLE 24. -- A number of item and percentage focus analysis of the Chicago Tribune between 1937-49 (divided into three sub-periods)

	So		Politica	(2) Political	Eco C	(3) Economic	Lend	(h) Lendership		Kon-garent	かった	(6) Strategy	(7) Combination	7)
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Prowar 1937-L1	00	29.3	30	17	Marine Marine	33.1	5.	29 25.7	5	61 38.7	K	35 22.9	2	12 30.8
Warting 1942-45	50	50 53	127	Ci Ci	essed.	L 33.3	K	S.	29	56 54	8	90 58.8	H	38.1
Postwar 1946-49	2	7	Çi.	o,	nanife general	33.33		30.1	S	59 33.5	23	28 18.3	N	12 35.8
Total	32.	75 100.0	99	66 100.0	122	12 100.0	11.3	113 100.0	176	176 100.0	1	153 100	33	39 100.0

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where they will be afforded opportunities for recreation, and then require military deportment of them, we will create an army. Otherwise, it will continue to be a mcb.5

During the war the <u>Tribune</u> continued to comment strongly on armed forces' management weaknesses. An April, 1962 editorial concerning the burning of the troopship <u>Normandie</u> at a New York pier said:

... the /Normandie/ disaster uncovered gross inefficiency and division of authority in the navy department . . . The spectacle of an organization sitting complacently by, unable to guard against recurrent fires from the same cause in what is essentially a routine industrial operation does not inspire confidence in the /organization's/ ability . . . to direct the delicate and hazard-ous operations of naval warfare.

The Tribune's attitude toward military management eased somewhat following World War II, but the theme was still Colonel McCormick's favorite when editorializing about the armed services.

Universal Military Training was an aspect of postwar military management that caused frequent comment. An April, 1949 letter published in the Tribune reflected public interest in the new military draft.

It was written by an army draftee. He wrote from Camp Gordon,

Georgia:

I fear that the ordinary citizen is unaware of the plight of the draftee under the new draft setup that Truman put over on Congress. The morale of the . . . draftees in the army is rather low at present. . . .

Articles concerning the strategy sub-category with the predominate emphasis in wartime were the Tribune's second heaviest area of concentration. This large Chicago daily also commented often

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on military leadership. General Douglas MacArthur received significant support editorially in the Tribune. He was called "one of the great captains of all time" and lauded as a "statesman" in an editorial at the end of the war.

The Los Angeles Times

The Los Angeles Times placed its strongest focal emphasis on strategy during the war (see Table 25). Management was located in second place. This large Los Angeles journal carried the respected Walter Lippmann column, "Today and Tomorrow." One of Lippman's 19th columns illustrated the type of writing regarding strategy that was generally found in the Los Angeles Times. He wrote:

... the grand strategy under which Americans are waging war in the Pacific and in Europe has been determined by the high command of the American Navy and the American Army. . . . it is their /American citizens/ right to know that the issue /the war's outcome/ is staked on a strategical plun which has been determined by the long-considered and deepest professional convictions of the American Army and the American Navy.

Management comment was found well dispersed among the three sub-periods; however, the armed forces' unification struggle in the late 1710s seemed to result in somewhat more management emphasis during the postwar segment.

The Milwaukee Journal

Military management became the most frequent opinion subcategory found in the Milwaukee Journal portion of the research (see Table 26). The Journal deviated slightly from the other newspapers Augra between terralest ordered between advances of the control terral of the control te

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TABLE 25. -- A number of item and percentage focus analysis of the Los Angeles Times between 1937-49 (divided into three sub-periods)

	13	CE CELL	7700	(2) Political	Poo C	(3) Decreate	Lead	(h) Ledership	Maria	(5) Nancyenont	Str	(6) Stretegy	Co.bi.	(7) Combination
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Present 1937-41	A	12.2	grand E-mail	7	70	10 70.0	97	16 16.3	17	1,7 30.1	(N	28 15.8	2	2 18.3
Wartine 1942-45	K	23	-	21.9	N	2 16.0	0	50.00		18 30.0	126	126 71.2	note warmed	4 36.3
Postwar 1946-49	7	31 31.7 14 43.7	7	ing Line	H	13 14.0	3	23	000	80	23	S E	70	117
Total	000	98 100.0	32	32 100.0	23	25 100.0	86	100.0	155	100.0	177	100.0	H	100.0

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TABLE 26.--A number of item and percentage focus analysis of the Milwaukee Journal between 1937-L9 (divided into three sub-periods)

	000	Sociel	(2) Politic	(2) Political	000	(3) Beonanie	Long	(h) Leadership		(5) Menning ement	Strat	(6) Strategy	Combi	(7) Combination
	No.	No. Pet.	Mo.	No. Pet.	Ro.	Ko. Pet.	No.	No. Pet.	0 10	Zo. Pet.	No.	No. Pet.	No.	No. Pet.
Prewar 1937-41	ス	28.00	CN CN	300	0	9 ok.3	92	1.61 93	9	16 28.0	37	31 31.3		L. W
Wartine 1942-45	~	27 37.0	Photos	29.2	r=4	7.7	3	66 20.3	3	1,3 26.3	उँ	9179	9	6 22.3
Postwar 1966-69	23	25 34.2	0	44 44		h 28.6	N	22	72	75 45.7	rety	-3	20	20 74.0
Total	12	73 100.0	21,	24 100.0	17	100.0	137	300.c		161, 100.0	66	99 106.0	2.2	100.0

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examined in that the leadership sub-category was second. A wartime editorial about American soldiers in training camp exemplified the Journal's attitude toward the military in a management situation.

It said:

After careful survey of army camps the effice of war information reports that the American people may well be proud of the sobriety and general behavior of our troops in training. . . . they are wholesome beyond anything hoped for by military leaders here or elsewhere. . . . 10

The Journal often commented on the quality of leadership displayed in the armed forces. Generals Eisenhower, MacArthur and Marshall and Admirals Nimitz and King were mentioned frequently in all forms of comment. Strategy slipped to third place for the first time in the analysis of the five newspapers.

Sumary

It was noted with interest that the economic sub-category ranked last among the seven tested. It should not, however, be assumed that these newspapers avoided comment on military financial matters. As mentioned in the Washington Post analysis, many articles coded in the combination sub-category contained comment on military spending. A re-check of the research coding confirmed that this was frequently true of all five newspapers analyzed.

It should also be mentioned that each of these five influential dailies jealously guarded the American society's First Amendment freedom by commenting freely on military censorship policies in the World War II period. The New York Times seemed to lead the press in

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deploring the early wartime military information policies. It wrote in October, 1942: '... The practice of withholding bad news, or making good news sound even better than it is, is costing the armed services heavily in loss of public confidence. Although it did not rank high among the seven areas of focal analysis, the social sub-category was a significant area of comment in all newspapers of the study.

Hypothesis IV seemed to be confirmed regarding the most frequently found sub-categories. In all newspapers except the Milwaukee Journal, the most heavily used themes were either management or strategy. In the Journal, management led but leadership edged into second place and pushed strategy into third position. The finding of either management or strategy at or near the top among the seven sub-categories tested in each newspaper seemed to confirm Hypothesis IV for the leading sub-categories.

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FOOTNOTES FOR CHAPTER V

William O. Aydelotte, "Quantification in History," The American Historical Review, LXXI, No. 3 (1966), p. 805.

²Editorial, Washington Post, January 23, 19h8, sec. 1, p. 20.

3 Thid., July 5, 1940, sec. 1, p. 8.

Editorial, New York Times, July 2, 19h2, sec. 1, p. 20.

Editorial, Chicago Tribune, October 12, 1941, sec. 1, p. 18.

1bid., April 21, 19h2, sec. 1, p. 12.

7Letter to the Editor, Chicago Tribune, April 18, 1949, sec. 1, p. 26.

8Editorial, Chicago Tribune, October 16, 1945, sec. 1, p. 10.

Editorial, Los Angeles Times, April L, 19hh, sec. 2, p. h.

10 Editorial, Milwaukee Journal, January 3, 1943, sec. 5, p. 2.

11 Editorial, New York Times, October 23, 1942, sec. 1, p. 20.

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CHAPTER VI

THE CONCLUSION

Quantitative procedures by no means preclude, nor indeed can they possibly eliminate, the use of value judgments, speculations, intelligent guesses or the imagination and intuitive feel which the historian, and . . . the social scientist, should bring to his subject. What is gained by attempting such exactitude as the circumstances allow is not finality but reasonable credibility, not the elimination of subjective factors but the minimizing of their role.

The purpose of this study was to examine a segment of press comment regarding the American military organization during a period when the armed forces became greatly involved in the American society, due to the Second World War and the advent of the Cold War.

The author's basic "Towny theory" was formed over several years of both educational and military experience. However, the thought of expending and testing the validity of the theory did not occur until recently. It was also recognized that the theory was not original, but an examination of it by analyzing influential press comment concerning the military organization seemed to be an unexplored area. The writer's use of the term "Towny" was not an entirely adequate reflection of the British soldier of Kipling's poem. However, it came close to conveying the writer's intended meaning.

The four hypotheses enumerated in Chapter I were the results of this idea. The findings and conclusions of the preceding three chapters, which discussed quantitative amount, direction and focus, will be briefly summarized in this chapter. The author will also attempt an interpretive conclusion regarding the "Tommy theory" and its validity when compared with this research data. A description of

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the coder reliability check used and suggestions for further research will conclude the chapter.

Sumary

The quantitative eres of this study began with an examination of the encunt and type of military comment found in the five newspapers used. Chapter III analyzed the data using three measuring instruments. These were: the number of items found, the number of column inches of space printed for these items and the identification of the type of item. Item type was divided into three parts: editorials, features and letters to the editor. The Washington Post led in both the number of comment items printed and total column inches of space devoted to these items. The Post also led in total editorials and letters to the editor. The New York Times was the feature item leader.

Chapter IV observed the directional emphasis of the study.

A Chi-square test was accomplished in this chapter in order to check the statistical significance of the study figures in both wartime and non-wartime contexts. The items were coded in three directional categories. These categories were: favorable, neutral and unfavorable. The Los Angeles Times led the study in the percentage of items found to be favorable to the armed forces. The New York Times and Milwaukee Journal were near the Los Angeles daily in favorability. More than half of all coded comment concerning the military was found to be unfavorable in the Chicago Tribune. The New York Times led the study in the percentage of headlines that were favorable to the services.

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Directional graphic matter was highly favorable in each of the five newspapers, with the highest favorability seen in the New York Times.

in the study. Seven focal sub-categories were established for the project. They were: social, political, economic, leadership, management, strategy and combination. The study time frame was separated into three sub-periods in order to shrink the cumbersome nature of the table format and create a larger n upon which to base percentage. Management and strategy led all sub-categories in each newspaper examined with a single exception. Leadership was the second most frequent sub-category discovered in the Milwaukee Journal and strategy was third.

Chapters III, IV and V revealed that the four hypotheses of the study were basically confirmed by the research evidence. One exception was noted in Hypothesis II. There was no gradual upward tendency in favorableness of comment toward the armed services approaching World War II. The research showed prewar favorability toward the military to be mixed with no clear pattern established.

The "Towny theory"

The writer's "Tommy theory" sees a fluctuating American civilian public attitude toward its military organization. In a wartime context, armed services' personnel are accepted and respected by the American public; whereas in peacetime, civilian reactions are something less than favorable. Hypothesis II was developed to check the validity of this theory.

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If it is accepted that the five study newspapers functioned as opinion leaders in their areas during the time frame used in the research, public attitudes in these areas might have been influenced by the comment printed in these journals. Therefore, the information gathered in the study may have meaning in examining the "Tommy theory." One argument concerning the influence of editorial comment on the newspaper-reading public should be discussed here. Within the field of content analysis studies dealing with journalism research there has been some support for the theory that editorial comment is difficult to read in comparison with objective news writing. The theory continues that such comment should be given little weight when considering press influence on its reader public. A recent content analysis study by Moznette and Marick refuted this theory. They said that "editorials were found to be more readable than news stories."

There is evidence in the study newspapers themselves to show that they recognized the validity of the "Tommy theory." Examples were found in both wartime and non-wartime contexts.

Early in world War II the Washington Post acknowledged that the American people had traditionally paid little attention or respect to their armed forces except in war. When discussing Army Day it said:

^{. . .} Army Day has never been an occasion to excite the American people. We have been too steeped in pacifism to take more than passing notice of our martial achievements. We have simply telerated our puny military establishment. We have grudged Army

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appropriations. We have never extended to the soldier the status in our society which he occupies in other countries. . . . We have never been a military nation. . . . 3

In 19th the Chicago Tribune, although often unfavorable in its comment regarding the armed forces, foresaw the importance of the postwar military and offered a glimmer of insight into today's politicomilitary problems. The comment also showed an attitude relevant to the "Tommy theory." It wrote in an editorial entitled, "The Post-War Army":

. . . An adequate program of military and naval preparedness will not be accepted by the American people without dissent. Our peace time lapses of the past have not been wholly the fault of the administrators and powers in Washington. The American people do not like military establishments and do not like to spend money on them. That prejudice has to be overcome if the nation is to be made safe. . . .

The wilder the proposals to keep American troops on duty thruout /sic/ the world, and to send them to intervene in any quarrel that may arise on any continent, the harder it is going to be to convince the nation of our need for protection. Fathers and mothers of America want no part of a post-war army if it involves making lend-lease mercenaries of their sons.

The Los Angeles Times printed a resder editorial in 1945 that illustrated the "Tommay theory." It said:

The glamour and flag waving of war are soon forgetten after peace comes and the veteran becomes another "problem.". . .

Nobody would think of having . . . servicemen over for Sunday dinner. The glamour would be missing, it wouldn't be the smart thing to do. . . . 5

After the war, a New York Times reader saw an unchanged American attitude. The 1947 letter to the Times said:

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. . . When the times are critical we lean heavily upon our fellow-citizens who have devoted their lives to the Army, Navy and Air Corps. Our whole existence and future and that of our children is then largely in their keeping. Yet after the crisis is successfully passed—to a very substantial degree through their efforts—we lose interest.

Fundamentally this is understandable and sound. Actually, however, is this attitude wise or fair?

In the same year the Milwaukee Journal wrote, "... If the American army is demoralized now, the American people have done much to make it so. We are safe and selfish again." The next year the Journal again wrote:

... Americans ... look with disdain or suspicion on military men and military institutions—that is, until America happens to need those military men to win a wer. They look on the peacetime army as a bunch of men strutting around in uniform, killing their own time and wasting taxpayers! Loney. ... 8

papers studied did comment much mere favorably about the military in the crisis period of the Second World War than was done before or after the conflict. The study sample also uncovered a significant decline in favorability in the first year following the war. A drop was found in each of the five dailies and four of the five lowered favorable comment by over 30 percent. The Chicago Tribune's drop was approximately 10 percent. After 19h6, favorability percentages for four of the study journals remained generally lower than their prewar figures. The postwar Tribune military favorability was about he percent. This was near the same level of favor found in the prewar Tribune. The predicted postwar drop was, at first, seen as primarily

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an outcome of the inter-service struggle over the establishment of a unified command concept (i.e., the Department of Defense). It was determined, however, that the pronounced decline in favorable comment after the war was due to several additional factors. For example, the 19h6 nadir was greatly influenced by national pressure to "bring the boys home" as quickly as possible after the war. There seemed to be a strong public attitude that the armed forces were deliberately slow in discharging personnel. Letters to the editor were very numerous on this point. Unfavorable comment also originated over the civilian fear of the establishment of a military bureaucracy in the American government. The inadequacies of military justice and several other problems found frequent comment in the five decilies. The favorability drop seen in each of the study newspapers in 19h9 was predominately caused by the unification struggle.

Prewar favorable comment concerning the military did not compare with the overall wartime level found later in each newspaper. Yet, there was no rising prewar pattern as predicted. The mixed editorial attitude shown by the research may have been a reflection of the American public apprehension due to the spreading war in Europe and the Far East. The policy of isolationism had considerable public support in those years.

The research findings imply a limited correlation between the "Tommy theory" and the newspaper comment observed. The five journals analyzed in the study were picked on the basis of circulation and geographical location. Assuming a reasonable amount of influence on

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the general public by the study newspapers and noting the editorial readability factor determined in the Moznette and Rarick study, comment about the armed forces found in these five journals should be considered to be a factor in molding reader opinion toward the nation's military establishment.

Reliability

A reliability test was accomplished with an independent coder to determine the extent of agreement with the writer. The test was taken from the "equivalent forms method" described by Guido H.

Stempel III. The test involved a measurement of "identical frequency tabulations" of the material examined by the coders.

The independent coder was instructed on the procedures used in this study and given 20 randomly selected items from the study sample to code. These items were selected from the total number of comment items used in the five newspapers. A table of random numbers found in Content Analysis of Communications was used to make the item selections. The extent of agreement between the independent coding of these items and the original coding was 81 percent.

Suggestions for Further Research

Further research might attempt to carry forward the basic study methodology to the present time. It would be interesting to discover if there was a rise in favorability through the Korean War. Of even more contemporary interest would be a study leading to and through the Vietnam War. The comparison of journalism attitudes

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toward the military establishment over many years could reveal meaningful data that might be of value to these two influential elements of our society—the press and the military.

A study examining ten rather than five newspapers of the prestige press over a shorter time frame might also be an acceptable project. Differing hypotheses concerning press attitudes toward the military might be tested.

The difference between the "Tommy theory" and the apparent low level of favorable press comment toward the military at the present time would offer an interesting comparison. The present Vietnam War situation seems to offer a paradox to the "Tommy theory" which was found to have some validity in this study.

The research finding of an unusually low favorability percentage in the Chicago Tribune's comment about the armed forces offers
a topic for study in itself. Colonel Robert McCormick's personal
military background and fervent patrictism seem incensistent with this
low level of favorability. The extremely outspoken editorial policies
found in the Tribune regarding isolationism and President Roosevelt in
the 1930s and MOS would also be fruitful areas for quantitative research.

Finally, it is suggested that further research develop a new base line evaluation method in testing comment direction. Upon completion of this study, the writer recognized that the directional findings seemed to penalize those newspapers that offered constructive criticism regarding military performance. Such was not the writer's intent.

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FOOTNOTES FOR CHAPTER VI

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- ² James Moznette and Galen Rarick, "Which Are More Readable: Editorials or News Stories?" Journalism Quarterly, XLV No. 2 (1968), p. 321.

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APPENDIX A

Operational definitions used were:

FAVORABLE

Those items reflecting cohesion, cooperation, stability and/or strength. Favorability will be judged on the basis of armed forces cooperation in which the armed forces or any group or individual representing the armed forces, is depicted as strong, right or cooperative. In internal affairs, favorability will be judged on the basis of persons or groups cooperating in military affairs. For example, events and incidents which depict the armed forces, or any group or individual within the armed forces as progressive, successful, moral, intelligent, lawful, unified or as exercising leadership will be considered favorable. This classification will not be assigned where the armed forces or any group or individual thereof, is depicted as exploiting its strength upon weaker organizations, groups or individuals.

UNPAVORABLE

Those items which report conflict and disorganization and military instability and/or weakness. Unfavorability will be judged on the basis of tensions in which the armed forces, or any group or individual representing the armed forces, is depicted as weak, wrong or uncooperative. In internal offairs, unfavorability will be judged on the basis of military disruption in which there is conflict between

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persons or groups of persons within the armed forces in military affairs. For example, events and incidents which depict the armed forces, or any group or individual within the armed forces, as backward, unmilitary, immoral, impractical, unlawful, disunified or lacking in leadership will be classified as unfavorable.

NEUTRAL

Those items which reflect neither favorable or unfavorable condition either through balance of content or lack of controversial material.

EDITORIAL

Written expression of biased opinion regarding persons, places, things and events.

FEATURE

Written expression of fact and/or opinion regarding a subject of particular interest.

LETTER-TO-THE-EDITOR

Any written correspondence submitted to a newspaper by one of its readers and subsequently printed in that newspaper.

COMMENT

The sum of three forms of journalistic printed matter defined above (i.e., editorials, feature and letter-to-the-editor).

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SOCIAL

Opinion regarding the involvement of the armed forces in group or individual relationships with other groups or individuals.

POLITICAL

Opinion regarding the involvement of the armed forces in other governmental (less military) affairs.

ECONOMIC

Opinion regarding the involvement of the armed forces in financial (including budgetary) matters.

LEADERSH IP

Opinion regarding the effectiveness of the armed forces (individual, group or unit) in commanding respect and/or achieving discipline.

MANAGEMENT

Opinion regarding the effectiveness of the armed forces in directing and/or training personnel and directing and/or developing material.

STRATEGY

Opinion regarding the effectiveness of the armed forces in planning and carrying out warfare (primarily during conflict).

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APPENDIX B

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2	Neutral	2	Political	2	Neutral	2	Neutral
1	Unfavorable	3	Economic	1	Unfavorable	2	Unfavorable
		1	Leadership	0	None	0	None
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